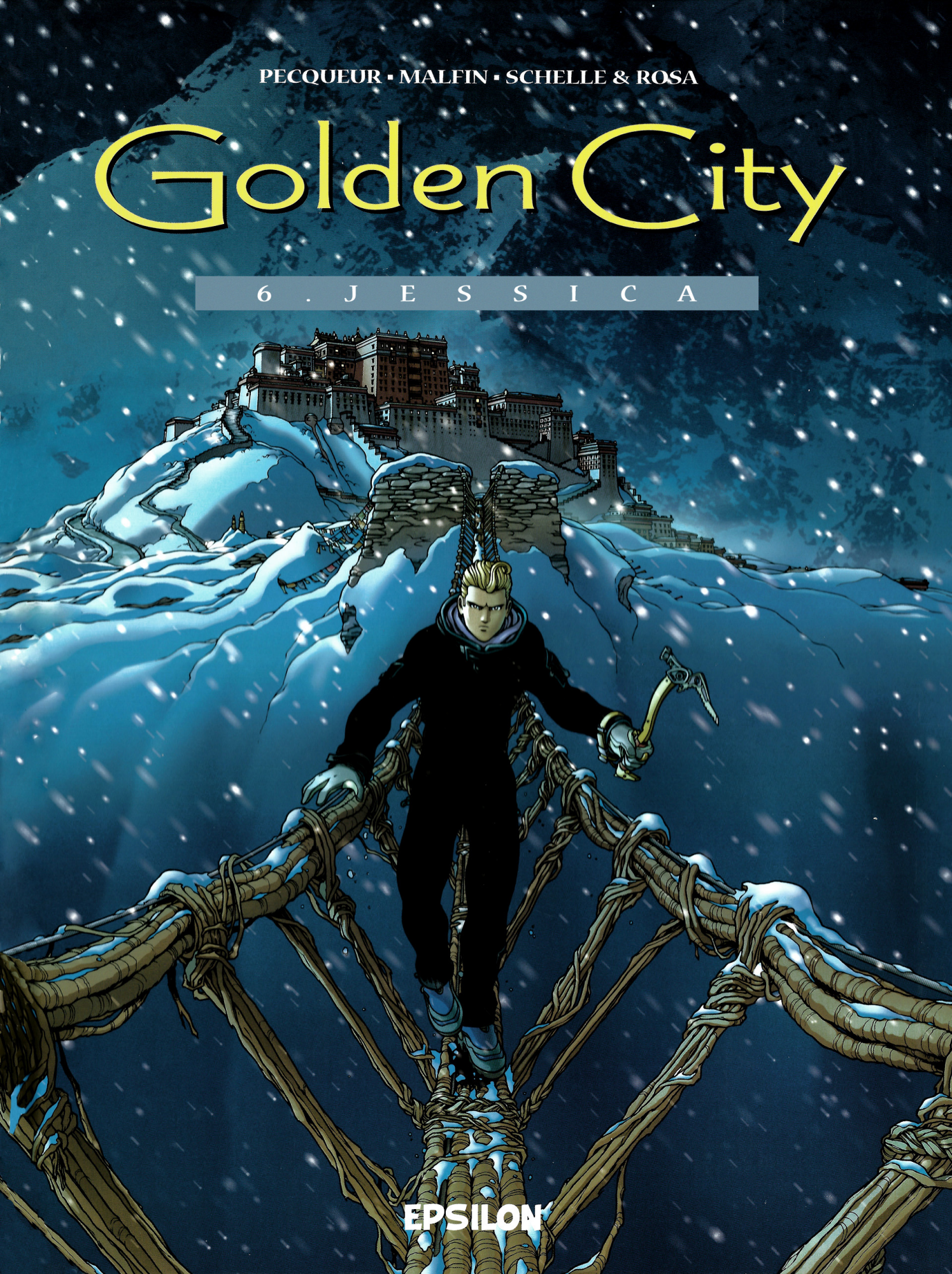
PECQUEUR • MALFIN • SCHELLE & ROSA

Golden City

6. JESSICA



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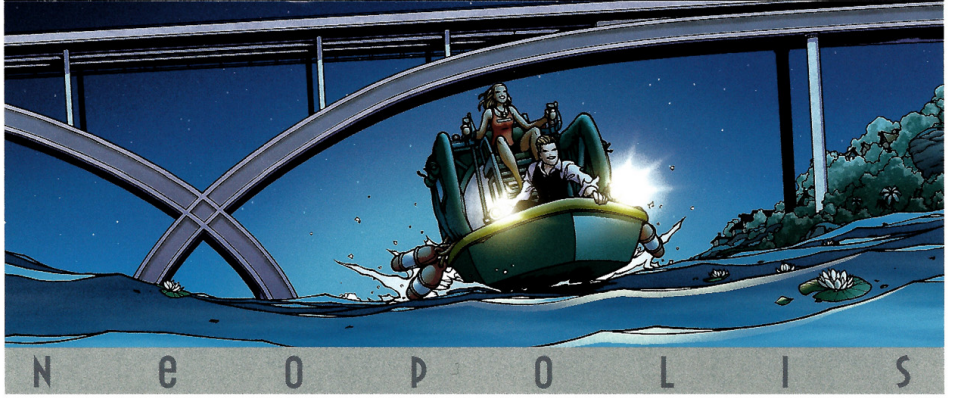

Golden City

6. JESSICA

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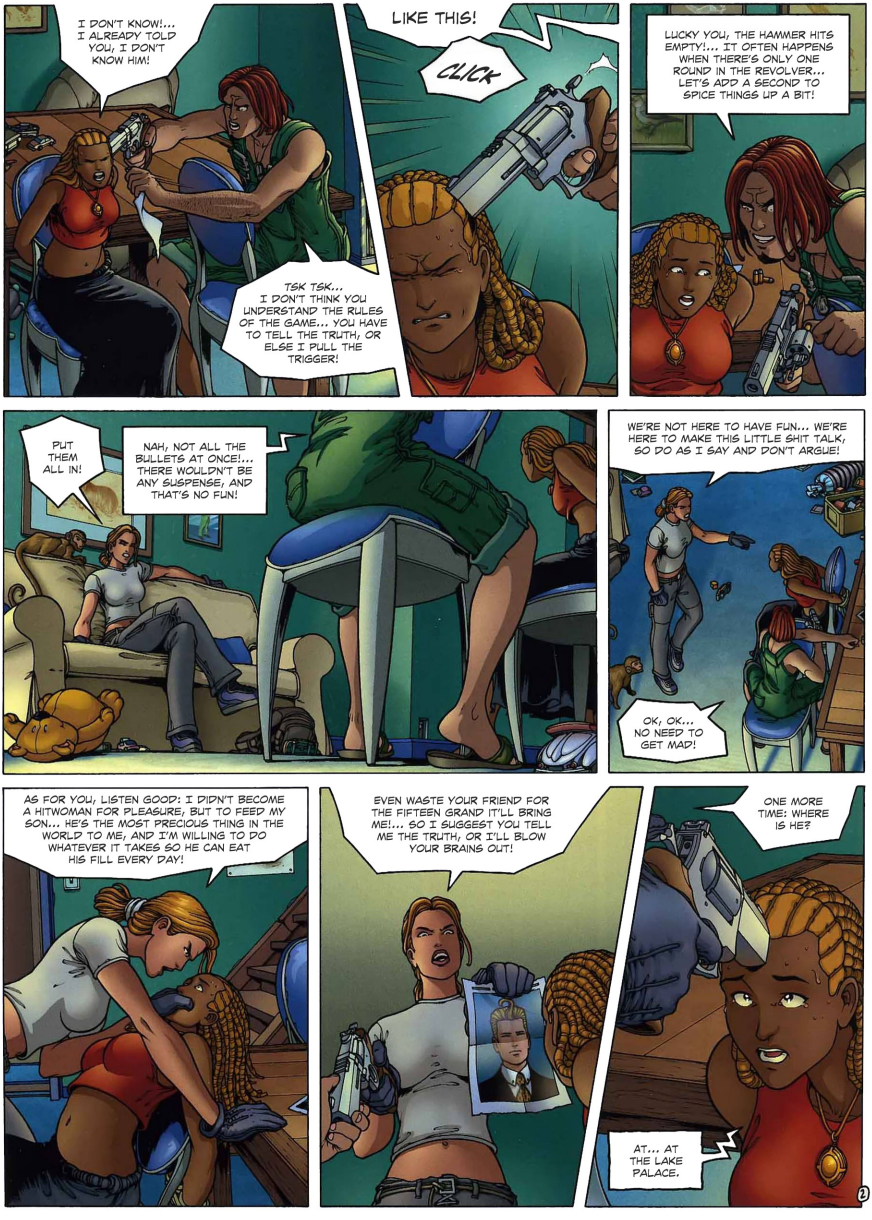
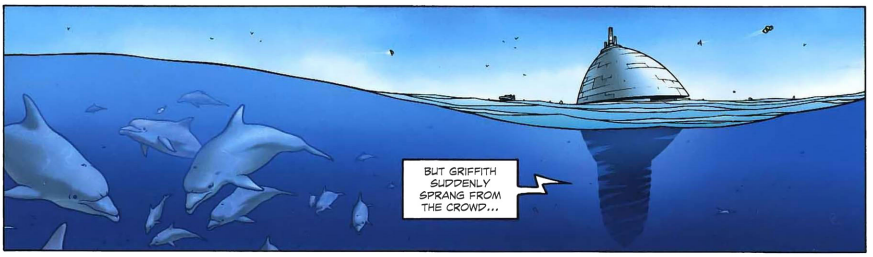
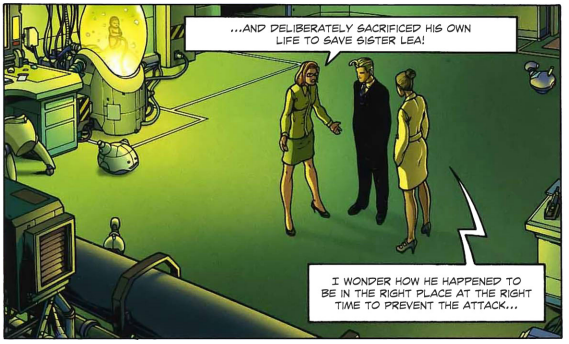
DO YOU KNOW HOW TO PLAY RUSSIAN ROULETTE? ...NO?
Il Garage
IT'S NOT THAT COMPLICATED, YOU'LL SEE.
IT TAKES TWO TO PLAY...
ONE TO ASKS THE QUESTIONS...
...AND ANOTHER TO ANSWER THEM.
GOT THAT?... GOOD, THEN LET'S GO!... FIRST QUESTION: WHERE IS HE?


I DON'T KNOW!... I ALREADY TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW HIM!
TSK TSK... I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND THE RULES OF THE GAME... YOU HAVE TO TELL THE TRUTH, OR ELSE I PULL THE TRIGGER!
LIKE THIS!
CLICK
LUCKY YOU, THE HAMMER HITS EMPTY!... IT OFTEN HAPPENS WHEN THERE'S ONLY ONE ROUND IN THE REVOLVER... LET'S ADD A SECOND TO SPICE THINGS UP A BIT!
PUT THEM ALL IN!
NAH, NOT ALL THE BULLETS AT ONCE!... THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY SUSPENSE, AND THAT'S NO FUN!
WE'RE NOT HERE TO HAVE FUN... WE'RE HERE TO MAKE THIS LITTLE SHIT TALK; SO DO AS I SAY AND DON'T ARGUE!
OK, OK... NO NEED TO GET MAD!
AS FOR YOU, LISTEN GOOD: I DIDN'T BECOME A HITWOMAN FOR PLEASURE, BUT TO FEED MY SON... HE'S THE MOST PRECIOUS THING IN THE WORLD TO ME, AND I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES SO HE CAN EAT HIS FILL EVERY DAY!
EVEN WASTE YOUR FRIEND FOR THE FIFTEEN GRAND IT'LL BRING ME!... SO I SUGGEST YOU TELL ME THE TRUTH, OR I'LL BLOW YOUR BRAINS OUT!
ONE MORE TIME: WHERE IS HE?
AT... AT THE LAKE PALACE.

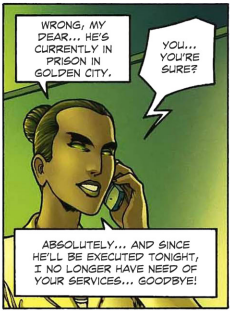

BUT GRIFFITH SUDDENLY SPRANG FROM THE CROWD...

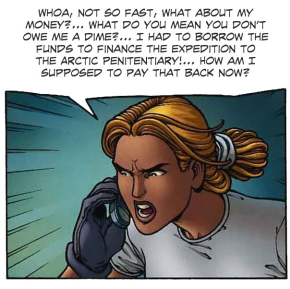

...AND DELIBERATELY SACRIFICED HIS OWN LIFE TO SAVE SISTER LEA!
I WONDER HOW HE HAPPENED TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME TO PREVENT THE ATTACK...

CERTAINLY NOT BY CHANCE... SOMEONE MUST HAVE WARNED HIM, BUT WHO?

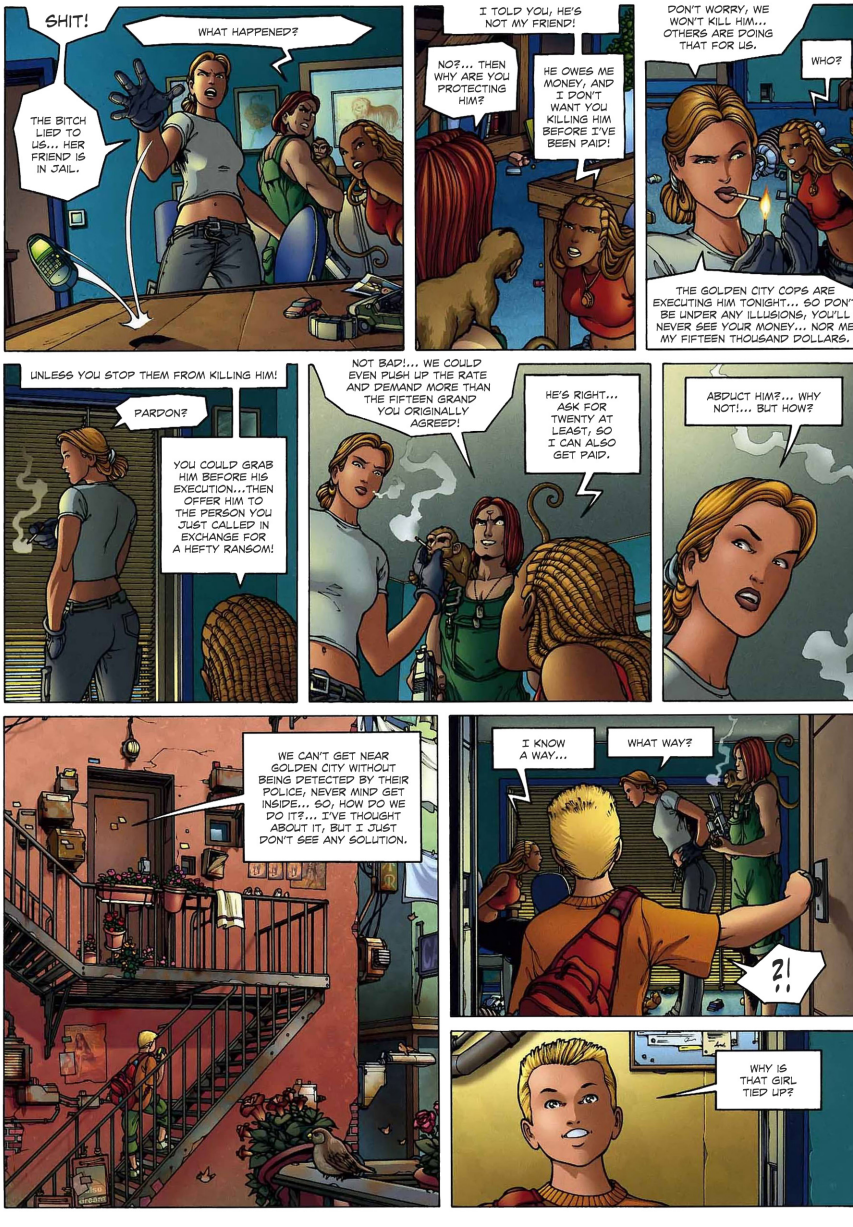
HELLO?... AH, IT'S YOU, AMBER... WHY ARE YOU CALLING?

TO GIVE YOU THE GOOD NEWS: I FOUND THE MAN YOU HIRED ME TO KILL... ACCORDING TO MY SOURCE, HE'S HIDING AT THE LAKE PALACE AND...


WRONG, MY DEAR... HE'S CURRENTLY IN PRISON IN GOLDEN CITY.
YOU... YOU'RE SURE?
ABSOLUTELY... AND SINCE HE'LL BE EXECUTED TONIGHT, I NO LONGER HAVE NEED OF YOUR SERVICES... GOODBYE!


WHOA, NOT SO FAST, WHAT ABOUT MY MONEY?... WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T OWE ME A DIME?... I HAD TO BORROW THE FUNDS TO FINANCE THE EXPEDITION TO THE ARCTIC PENITENTIARY!... HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PAY THAT BACK NOW?

THAT'S NOT MY PROBLEM... YOU FAILED IN THE MISSION YOU WERE ASSIGNED SO THERE'S NO QUESTION OF ME PAYING YOU... IT'S NO USE INSISTING, DEAR, THE ANSWER IS NO!


SHIT!
WHAT HAPPENED?
THE BITCH LIED TO US... HER FRIEND IS IN JAIL.
I TOLD YOU, HE'S NOT MY FRIEND!
NO?... THEN, WHY ARE YOU PROTECTING HIM?
HE OWES ME MONEY, AND I DON'T WANT YOU KILLING HIM BEFORE I'VE BEEN PAID!
DON'T WORRY, WE WON'T KILL HIM... OTHERS ARE DOING THAT FOR US.
WHO?
THE GOLDEN CITY COPS ARE EXECUTING HIM TONIGHT... SO DON'T BE UNDER ANY ILLUSIONS, YOU'LL NEVER SEE YOUR MONEY... NOR ME MY FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.
UNLESS YOU STOP THEM FROM KILLING HIM!
PARDON?
YOU COULD GRAB HIM BEFORE HIS EXECUTION...THEN OFFER HIM TO THE PERSON YOU JUST CALLED IN EXCHANGE FOR A HEFTY RANSOM!
NOT BAD!... WE COULD EVEN PUSH UP THE RATE AND DEMAND MORE THAN THE FIFTEEN GRAND YOU ORIGINALLY AGREED!
HE'S RIGHT... ASK FOR TWENTY AT LEAST, SO I CAN ALSO GET PAID.
ABDUCT HIM?... WHY NOT!... BUT HOW?
WE CAN'T GET NEAR GOLDEN CITY WITHOUT BEING DETECTED BY THEIR POLICE, NEVER MIND GET INSIDE... SO, HOW DO WE DO IT?... I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT I JUST DON'T SEE ANY SOLUTION.
I KNOW A WAY...
WHAT WAY?
?!
WHY IS THAT GIRL TIED UP?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?... I TOLD YOU TO STAY AT THE NEIGHBOR'S UNTIL I COME AND GET YOU!

WHY DOES THAT MAN HAVE A GUN? ...ARE YOU PLAYING COWBOYS?

THAT'S RIGHT, YOU GUESSED IT: COWBOYS!... AND I'LL BET YOU CAN'T FREE ME!
OH YES I CAN!

WITH THIS!
?!

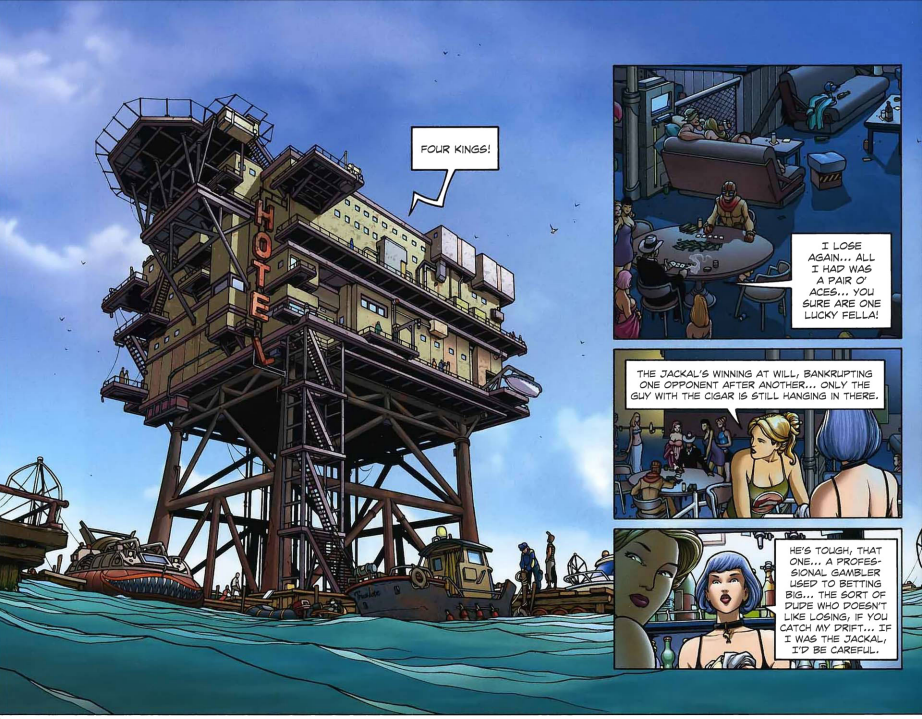
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?
I TRADED WITH A FRIEND.
YOU KNOW I DON'T WANT YOU PLAYING WITH KNIVES!... THEY'RE VERY DANGEROUS AND YOU COULD GET HURT!... GIVE THAT TO ME!

GO BACK TO THE NEIGHBOR'S, I'LL COME AND GET YOU LATER!... I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW!
NO, I DON'T WANNA... SHE'S MEAN!
SHE'S NOT MEAN!

SHE IS!... SHE SAID THE LANDLORD'S GONNA THROW US OUT 'CAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE MONEY FOR RENT!... AND THAT I'M GONNA GO TO THE ORPHANAGE AND YOU'RE GONNA SLEEP UNDER THE BOARDWALK!

DON'T CRY, LITTLE GUY... YOU CAN COME BACK TO MY PLACE WITH US.
YOUR PLACE? ...WHY?

BECAUSE THE "SOLUTION" I MENTIONED EARLIER IS THERE.

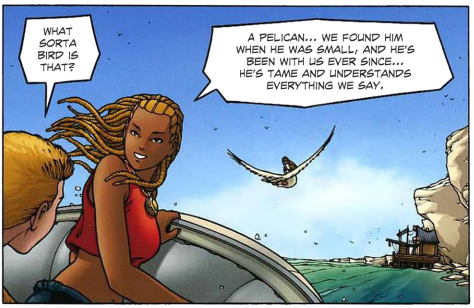

HOTEL
FOUR KINGS!
I LOSE AGAIN... ALL I HAD WAS A PAIR O' ACES... YOU SURE ARE ONE LUCKY FELLA!
THE JACKAL'S WINNING AT WILL, BANKRUPTING ONE OPPONENT AFTER ANOTHER... ONLY THE GUY WITH THE CIGAR IS STILL HANGING IN THERE.
HE'S TOUGH, THAT ONE... A PROFESSIONAL GAMBLER USED TO BETTING BIG... THE SORT OF DUDE WHO DOESN'T LIKE LOSING, IF YOU CATCH MY DRIFT... IF I WAS THE JACKAL, I'D BE CAREFUL.

HOW 'BOUT A REMATCH?
SURE, BUT THIS IS THE LAST HAND... AFTER THAT I'M GOING TO BED... I'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR THIRTY HOURS STRAIGHT...

...AND I'M STARTING TO GET SERIOUSLY TIRED.
WHERE TO NOW?
STRAIGHT!... TAKE THE CANAL UP AHEAD!

IS IT STILL FAR?
NO, WE'LL BE THERE SOON.
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
NOTHING...

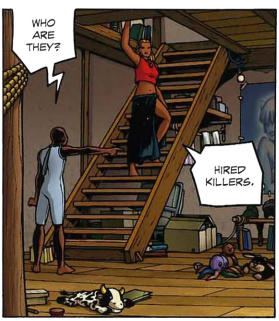
COME SEE!... IT'S MIFA, SHE'S BACK!


WHAT SORT A BIRD IS THAT?
A PELICAN... WE FOUND HIM WHEN HE WAS SMALL, AND HE'S BEEN WITH US EVER SINCE... HE'S TAME AND UNDERSTANDS EVERYTHING WE SAY.

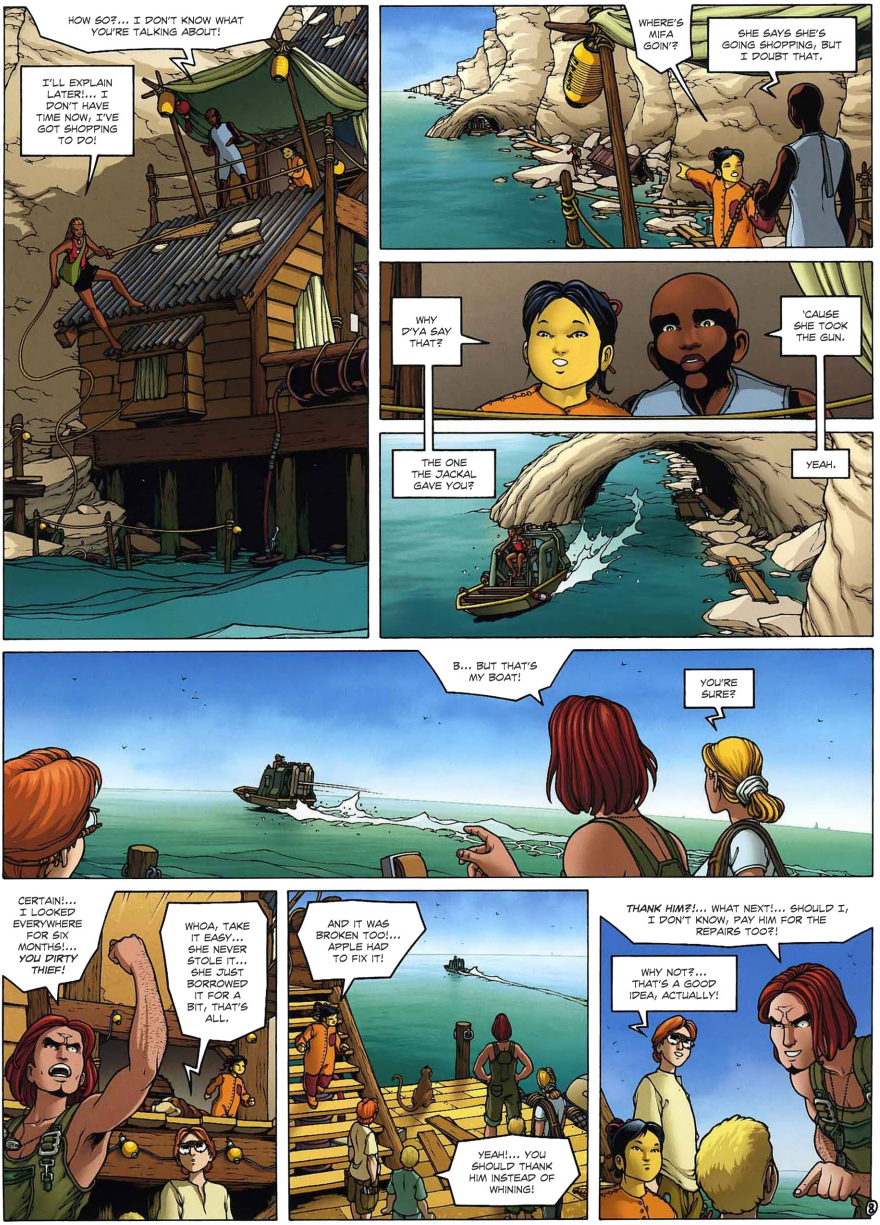
WHAT'S THAT ON ITS HEAD?
A CAMERA!... THAT'S THE SOLUTION I WAS TALKING ABOUT... THANKS TO HIM, WE CAN OBSERVE EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENING IN GOLDEN CITY WITHOUT BEING DETECTED BY THEIR PRIVATE POLICE.

REALLY?... HOW DOES IT WORK?
ASK APPLE, HE CAN ANSWER BETTER THAN I CAN... HE DESIGNED THE CAMERA.

CAN YOU FILM AT NIGHT WITH THAT?
YES.
ON MY COMPUTER, OR WITH VIRTUAL GOGGLES.
HOW DO YOU VIEW THE IMAGERY?


WHO ARE THEY?
HIRED KILLERS.

WHAT?!... ARE YOU INSANE?... WHY DID YOU BRING THEM HERE?
BECAUSE I WAS SCARED THEY'D KILL ME! IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE MY SKIN...
...AND MAYBE HARRISON'S AT THE SAME TIME!


HOW SO?... I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!... I DON'T HAVE TIME NOW, I'VE GOT SHOPPING TO DO!
WHERE'S MIFA GOIN'?
SHE SAYS SHE'S GOING SHOPPING, BUT I DOUBT THAT.
WHY D'YA SAY THAT?
'CAUSE SHE TOOK THE GUN.
THE ONE THE JACKAL GAVE YOU?
YEAH.
B... BUT THAT'S MY BOAT!
YOU'RE SURE?
CERTAIN!... I LOOKED EVERYWHERE FOR SIX MONTHS!... YOU DIRTY THIEF!
WHOA, TAKE IT EASY... SHE NEVER STOLE IT... SHE JUST BORROWED IT FOR A BIT, THAT'S ALL.
AND IT WAS BROKEN TOO!... APPLE HAD TO FIX IT!
YEAH!... YOU SHOULD THANK HIM INSTEAD OF WHINING!
THANK HIM?!... WHAT NEXT!... SHOULD I, I DON'T KNOW, PAY HIM FOR THE REPAIRS TOO?!
WHY NOT?... THAT'S A GOOD IDEA, ACTUALLY!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WAITING FOR YOU... I'VE GOT A BODY TO SELL... INTERESTED?
DEPENDS ...WHAT IS IT?... MAN OR WOMAN?

A MURDERER.
NO SHIT?... WHO'D HE MURDER?

MY MOTHER!
?!

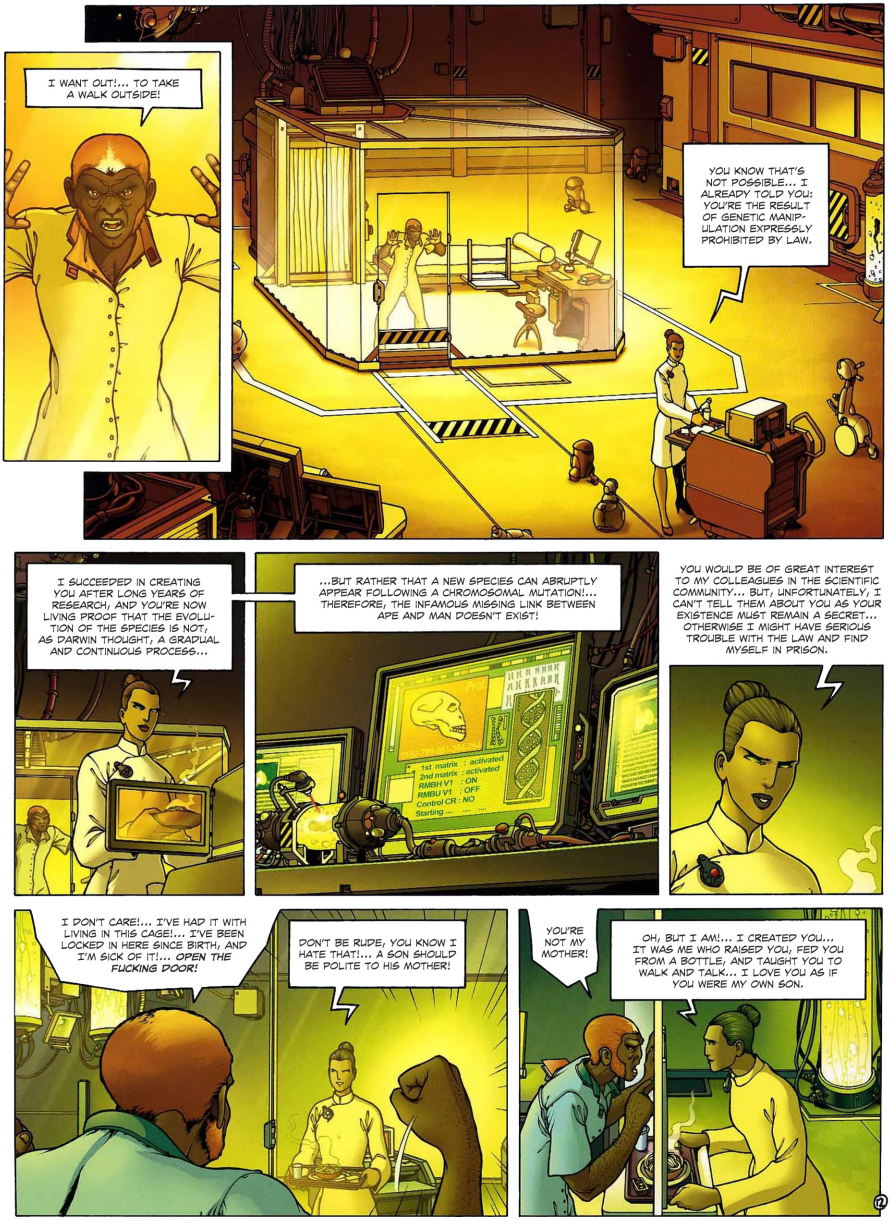
DON'T DO THIS... LOWER THE GUN... I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR MOTHER'S DEATH... IT WAS THE GOLDEN CITY COPS, NOT ME.
LIAR!... I KNOW IT WAS YOU!... SOMEONE SAW YOU GUN HER DOWN!

?!

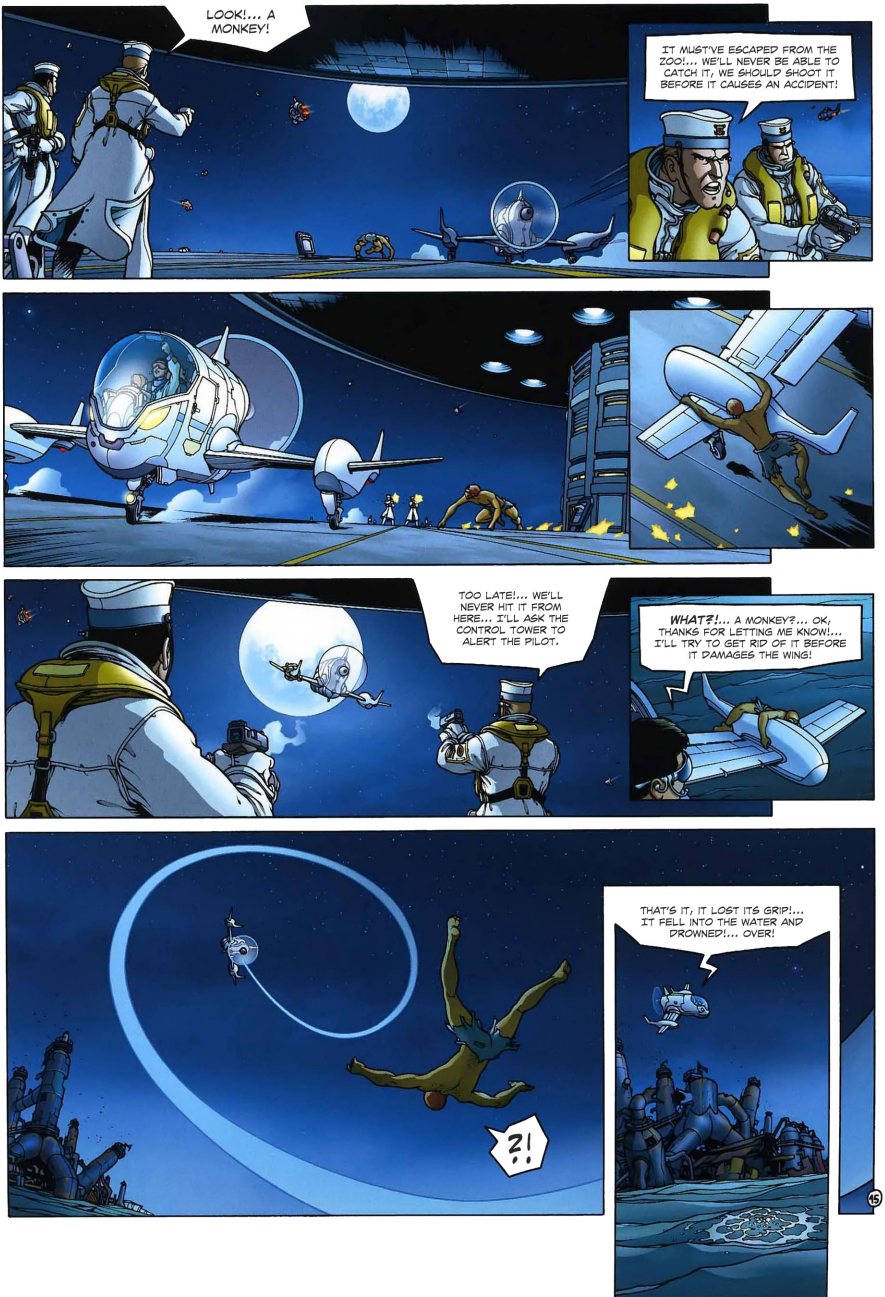
YOU ALREADY KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT ME TO LET YOU LIVE... I KNOW YOU: TO AVENGE YOUR DEAR MOTHER YOU'RE ENTIRELY CAPABLE OF TURNING ME IN TO THE COPS, AND THAT, I'M AFRAID, I CAN'T ALLOW!

2!
YOU SEE, MA'AM, THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF MEN I JUST CAN'T ABIDE: THOSE WHO ABUSE WOMEN, AND THOSE WHO CHEAT AT POKER.
AND WHILE THERE AIN'T ANY DOUBT THAT THIS SLIMEBALL ABUSED YOU, I SUSPECT HE WAS A CHEATER TOO... HE WAS TOO LUCKY A GAMBLER FOR IT TO BE OTHERWISE... MUCH TOO LUCKY!
SO I FOLLOWED HIM HERE INTENDING TO CONFRONT HIM AND GET MY MONEY BACK... WHERE D'YA RECKON HE HID HIS CARDS?... UP HIS SLEEVES?... IN HIS BOOTS?
OR IN HERE, PERCHANCE?... I GUESS WE'LL SOON FIND OUT.

B... BUT WHAT IN THE HELL...
AAAAAHHHH
...I WANT OUT...
OUT...

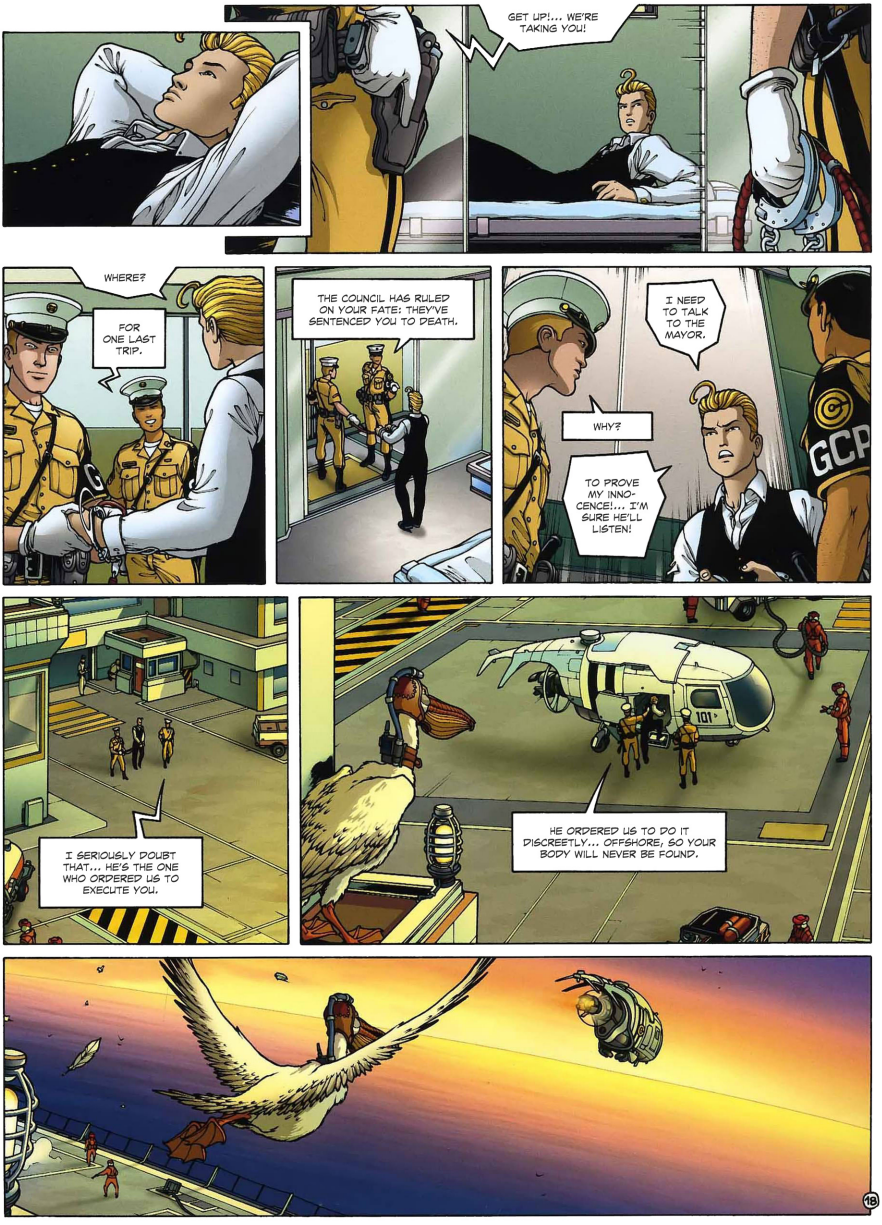

I WANT OUT!... TO TAKE A WALK OUTSIDE!
YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE... I ALREADY TOLD YOU: YOU'RE THE RESULT OF GENETIC MANIPULATION EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED BY LAW.
I SUCCEEDED IN CREATING YOU AFTER LONG YEARS OF RESEARCH, AND YOU'RE NOW LIVING PROOF THAT THE EVOLUTION OF THE SPECIES IS NOT, AS DARWIN THOUGHT, A GRADUAL AND CONTINUOUS PROCESS...
...BUT RATHER THAT A NEW SPECIES CAN ABRUPTLY APPEAR FOLLOWING A CHROMOSOMAL MUTATION!... THEREFORE, THE INFAMOUS MISSING LINK BETWEEN APE AND MAN DOESN'T EXIST!
1st matrix : activated
2nd matrix : activated
RMBH V1 : ON
RMBU V1 : OFF
Control CR : NO
Starting ....
YOU WOULD BE OF GREAT INTEREST TO MY COLLEAGUES IN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY... BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T TELL THEM ABOUT YOU AS YOUR EXISTENCE MUST REMAIN A SECRET... OTHERWISE I MIGHT HAVE SERIOUS TROUBLE WITH THE LAW AND FIND MYSELF IN PRISON.
I DON'T CARE!... I'VE HAD IT WITH LIVING IN THIS CAGE!... I'VE BEEN LOCKED IN HERE SINCE BIRTH, AND I'M SICK OF IT!... OPEN THE FUCKING DOOR!
DON'T BE RUDE, YOU KNOW I HATE THAT!... A SON SHOULD BE POLITE TO HIS MOTHER!
YOU'RE NOT MY MOTHER!
OH, BUT I AM!... I CREATED YOU... IT WAS ME WHO RAISED YOU, FED YOU FROM A BOTTLE, AND TAUGHT YOU TO WALK AND TALK... I LOVE YOU AS IF YOU WERE MY OWN SON.

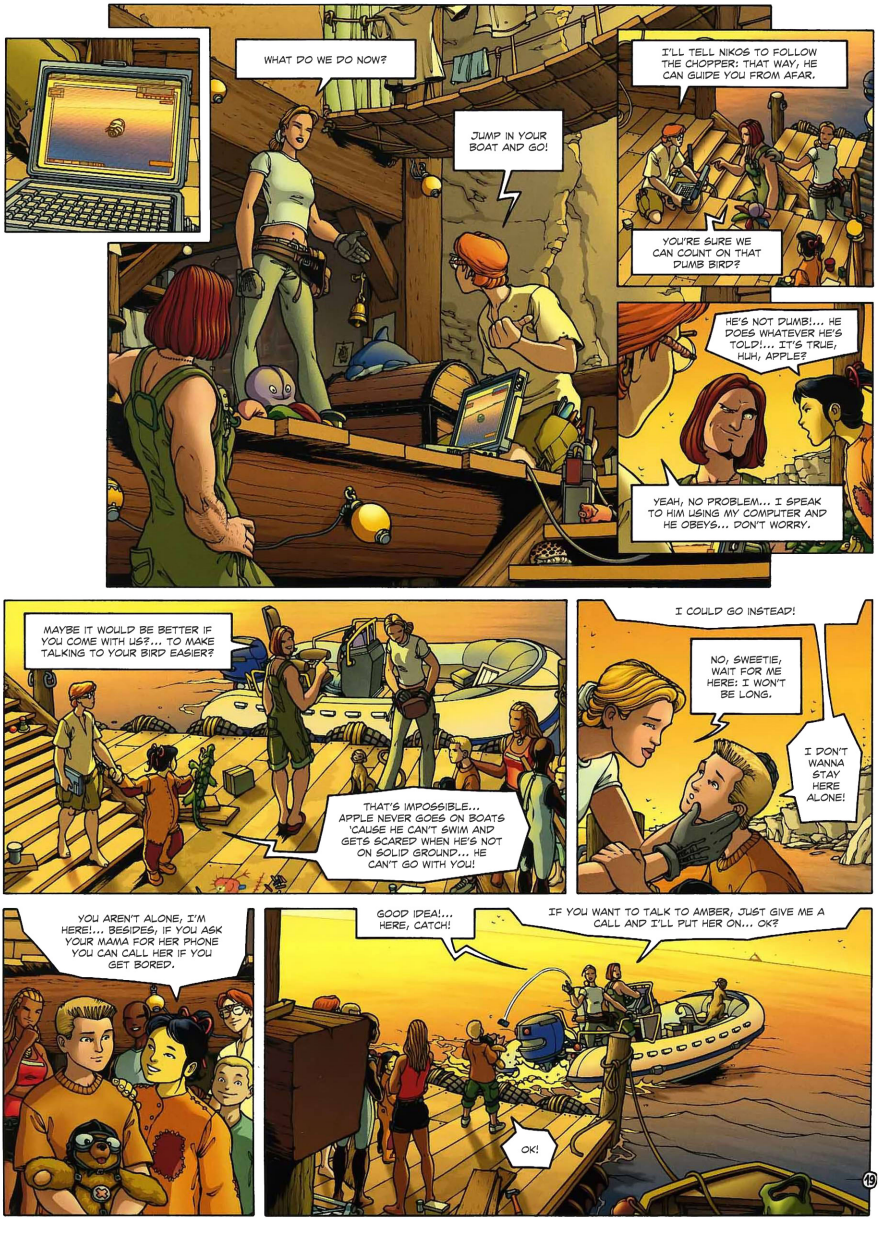
BUT I HATE YOU!
?!
FOR YEARS I'VE DREAMT OF GETTING FAR AWAY FROM HERE SO I'D NEVER HAVE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
AND TODAY THAT DREAM FINALLY COMES TRUE!
DON'T CELEBRATE YET: YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE THE SECRET PASSAGES ARE AND THEY'RE THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THIS LABORATORY... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE!
FOR YOU, MAYBE, BUT NOT FOR ME!
NO!... DON'T DO THIS!... WAIT, LISTEN TO ME!... YOU WEREN'T MEANT FOR THE OUTSIDE WORLD!: YOU'LL NEVER FIT IN!... YOU'RE TOO INTELLIGENT TO LIVE WITH THE ANIMALS...
...AND TOO DIFFERENT FROM MEN TO BE ACCEPTED BY THEM!... THEY'LL SEE YOU AS A MONSTER TO BE ELIMINATED!... COME BACK, I'M BEGGING YOU!... THEY'LL KILL YOU!

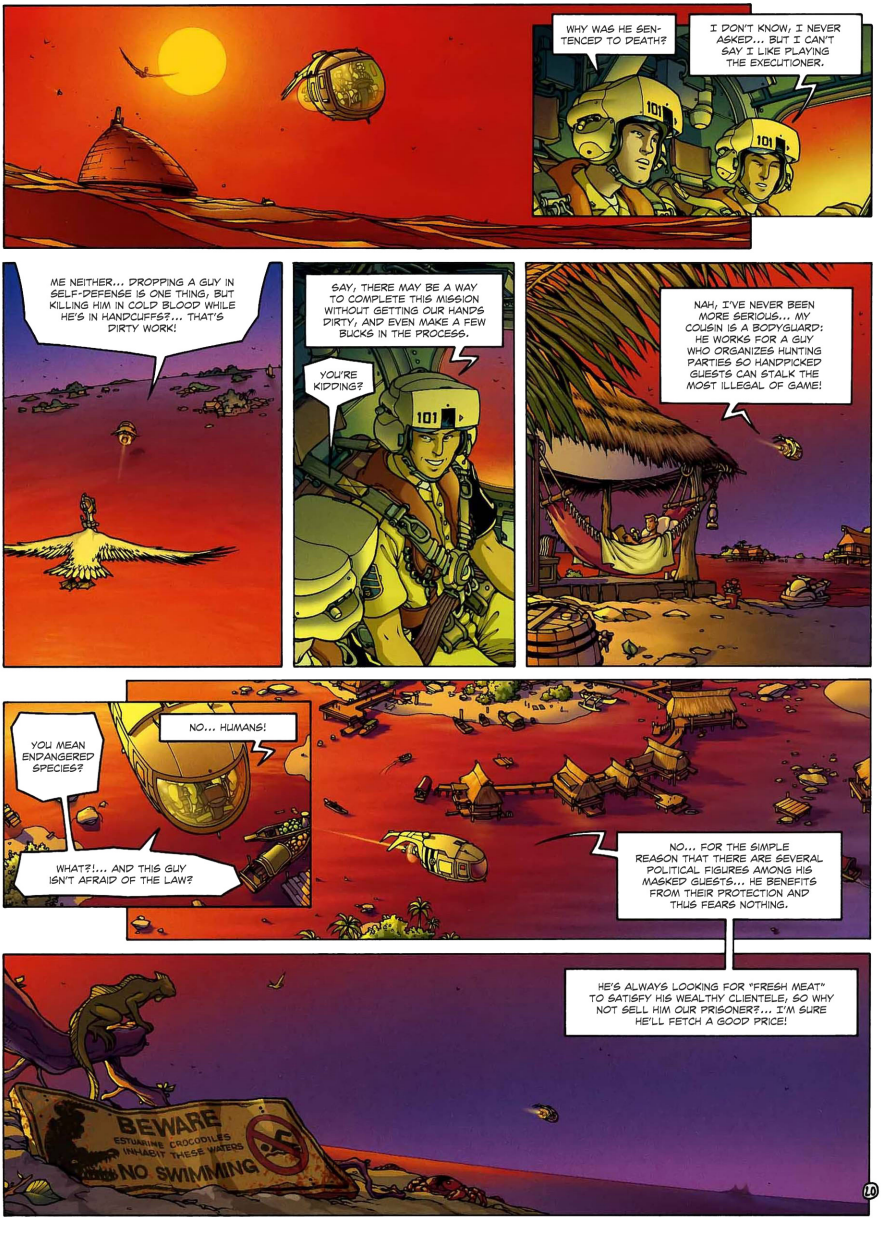

LOOK!... A MONKEY!
IT MUST'VE ESCAPED FROM THE ZOO!... WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CATCH IT, WE SHOULD SHOOT IT BEFORE IT CAUSES AN ACCIDENT!
TOO LATE!... WE'LL NEVER HIT IT FROM HERE... I'LL ASK THE CONTROL TOWER TO ALERT THE PILOT.
WHAT?!... A MONKEY?... OK, THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW!... I'LL TRY TO GET RID OF IT BEFORE IT DAMAGES THE WING!
?!
THAT'S IT, IT LOST ITS GRIP!... IT FELL INTO THE WATER AND DROWNED!... OVER!

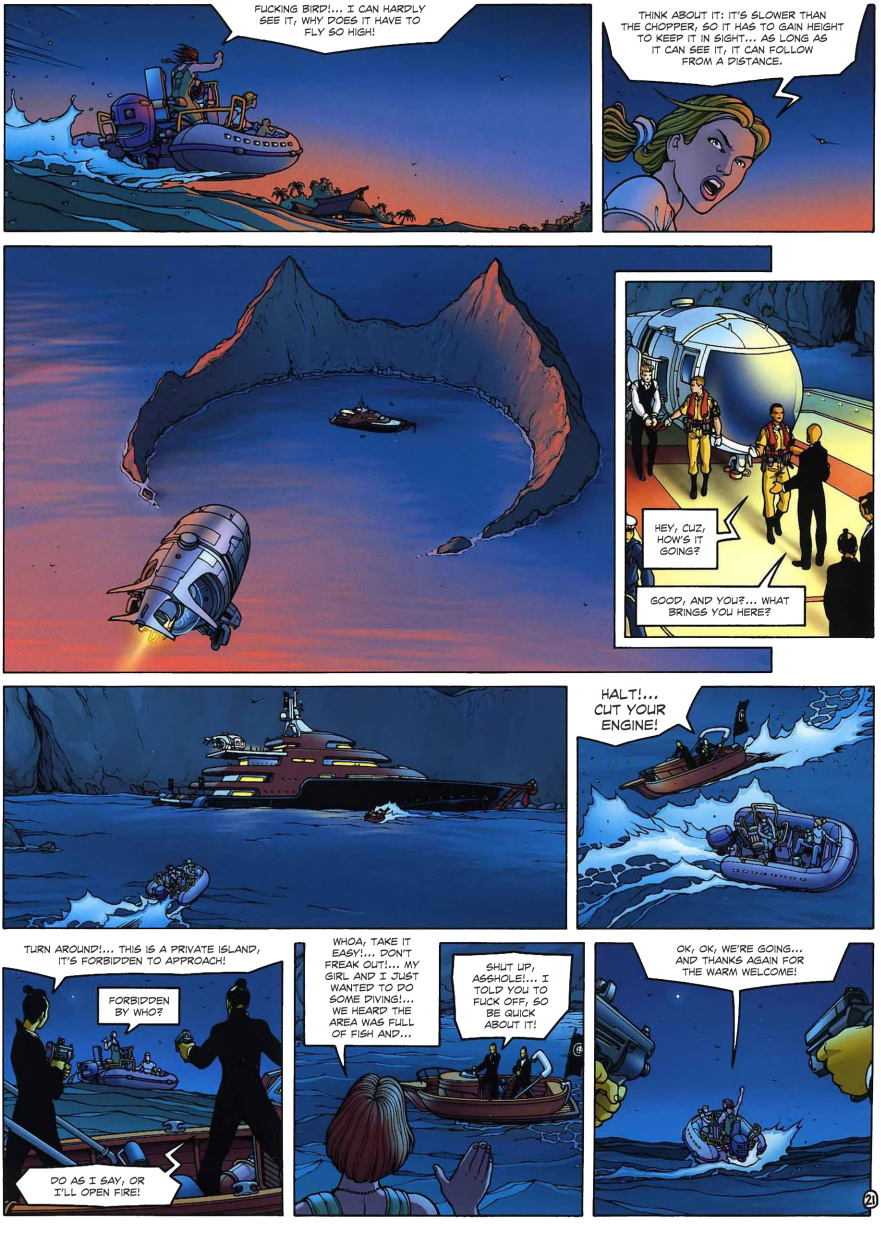
FUCK ME!... I JUST SAW A CHIMPANZEE!
THAT'S JUST THE WEED!... YOU GOTTA STOP SMOKING THAT SHIT, YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT!
NO, I'M NOT KIDDING!... LOOK, IT'S DOWN THERE!... COME ON, HURRY UP!
GO!... IF I CAN KILL IT, I KNOW SOMEONE WHO'LL GIVE US A GOOD PRICE!
WHO?
A HINDU!... HE RUNS A LITTLE RESTAURANT!... HIS CUSTOMERS LOVE MONKEY MEAT, ESPECIALLY THE BALLS!... APPARENTLY IT'S AN APHRODISIAC!
LOOK OUT!... BRAKE!
?!

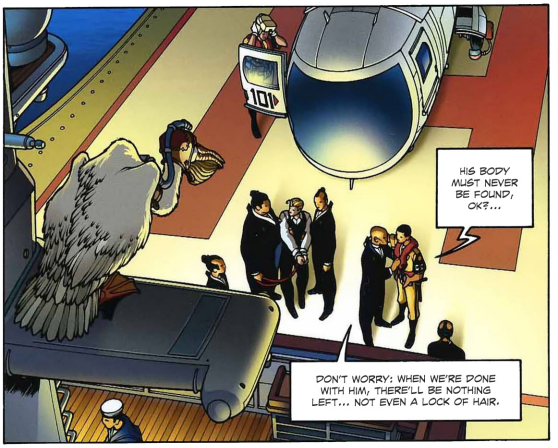
FINALLY FREE!


GET UP!... WE'RE TAKING YOU!
WHERE?
FOR ONE LAST TRIP.
THE COUNCIL HAS RULED ON YOUR FATE: THEY'VE SENTENCED YOU TO DEATH.
I NEED TO TALK TO THE MAYOR.
WHY?
TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE!... I'M SURE HE'LL LISTEN!
GCP
I SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT... HE'S THE ONE WHO ORDERED US TO EXECUTE YOU.
HE ORDERED US TO DO IT DISCREETLY... OFFSHORE; SO YOUR BODY WILL NEVER BE FOUND.
101


WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
JUMP IN YOUR BOAT AND GO!
I'LL TELL NIKOS TO FOLLOW THE CHOPPER: THAT WAY, HE CAN GUIDE YOU FROM AFAR.
YOU'RE SURE WE CAN COUNT ON THAT DUMB BIRD?
HE'S NOT DUMB!... HE DOES WHATEVER HE'S TOLD!... IT'S TRUE, HUH, APPLE?
YEAH, NO PROBLEM... I SPEAK TO HIM USING MY COMPUTER AND HE OBEYS... DON'T WORRY.
MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU COME WITH US?... TO MAKE TALKING TO YOUR BIRD EASIER?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE... APPLE NEVER GOES ON BOATS 'CAUSE HE CAN'T SWIM AND GETS SCARED WHEN HE'S NOT ON SOLID GROUND... HE CAN'T GO WITH YOU!
I COULD GO INSTEAD!
NO, SWEETIE, WAIT FOR ME HERE: I WON'T BE LONG.
I DON'T WANNA STAY HERE ALONE!
YOU AREN'T ALONE, I'M HERE!... BESIDES, IF YOU ASK YOUR MAMA FOR HER PHONE YOU CAN CALL HER IF YOU GET BORED.
GOOD IDEA!... HERE, CATCH!
IF YOU WANT TO TALK TO AMBER, JUST GIVE ME A CALL AND I'LL PUT HER ON... OK?
OK!


WHY WAS HE SENTENCED TO DEATH?
I DON'T KNOW, I NEVER ASKED... BUT I CAN'T SAY I LIKE PLAYING THE EXECUTIONER.
101
101
ME NEITHER... DROPPING A GUY IN SELF-DEFENSE IS ONE THING, BUT KILLING HIM IN COLD BLOOD WHILE HE'S IN HANDCUFFS?... THAT'S DIRTY WORK!
SAY, THERE MAY BE A WAY TO COMPLETE THIS MISSION WITHOUT GETTING OUR HANDS DIRTY, AND EVEN MAKE A FEW BUCKS IN THE PROCESS.
YOU'RE KIDDING?
101
NAH, I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE SERIOUS... MY COUSIN IS A BODYGUARD: HE WORKS FOR A GUY WHO ORGANIZES HUNTING PARTIES SO HANDPICKED GUESTS CAN STALK THE MOST ILLEGAL OF GAME!
YOU MEAN ENDANGERED SPECIES?
NO... HUMANS!
WHAT?!... AND THIS GUY ISN'T AFRAID OF THE LAW?
NO... FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL POLITICAL FIGURES AMONG HIS MASKED GUESTS... HE BENEFITS FROM THEIR PROTECTION AND THUS FEARS NOTHING.
HE'S ALWAYS LOOKING FOR "FRESH MEAT" TO SATISFY HIS WEALTHY CLIENTELE, SO WHY NOT SELL HIM OUR PRISONER?... I'M SURE HE'LL FETCH A GOOD PRICE!
BEWARE
ESTUARINE CROCODILES INHABIT THESE WATERS
NO SWIMMING


FUCKING BIRD!... I CAN HARDLY SEE IT, WHY DOES IT HAVE TO FLY SO HIGH!
THINK ABOUT IT: IT'S SLOWER THAN THE CHOPPER, SO IT HAS TO GAIN HEIGHT TO KEEP IT IN SIGHT... AS LONG AS IT CAN SEE IT, IT CAN FOLLOW FROM A DISTANCE.
HEY, CUZ, HOW'S IT GOING?
GOOD, AND YOU?... WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
HALT!... CUT YOUR ENGINE!
TURN AROUND!... THIS IS A PRIVATE ISLAND, IT'S FORBIDDEN TO APPROACH!
FORBIDDEN BY WHO?
DO AS I SAY, OR I'LL OPEN FIRE!
WHOA, TAKE IT EASY!... DON'T FREAK OUT!... MY GIRL AND I JUST WANTED TO DO SOME DIVING!... WE HEARD THE AREA WAS FULL OF FISH AND...
SHUT UP, ASSHOLE!... I TOLD YOU TO FUCK OFF, SO BE QUICK ABOUT IT!
OK, OK, WE'RE GOING... AND THANKS AGAIN FOR THE WARM WELCOME!


HIS BODY MUST NEVER BE FOUND, OK?...
DON'T WORRY: WHEN WE'RE DONE WITH HIM, THERE'LL BE NOTHING LEFT... NOT EVEN A LOCK OF HAIR.

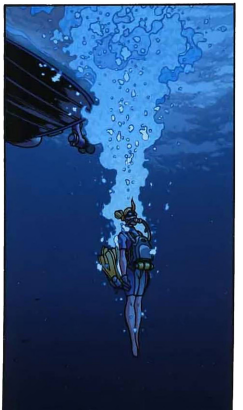
MOVE!... I'M TAKING YOU TO THE ISLAND!

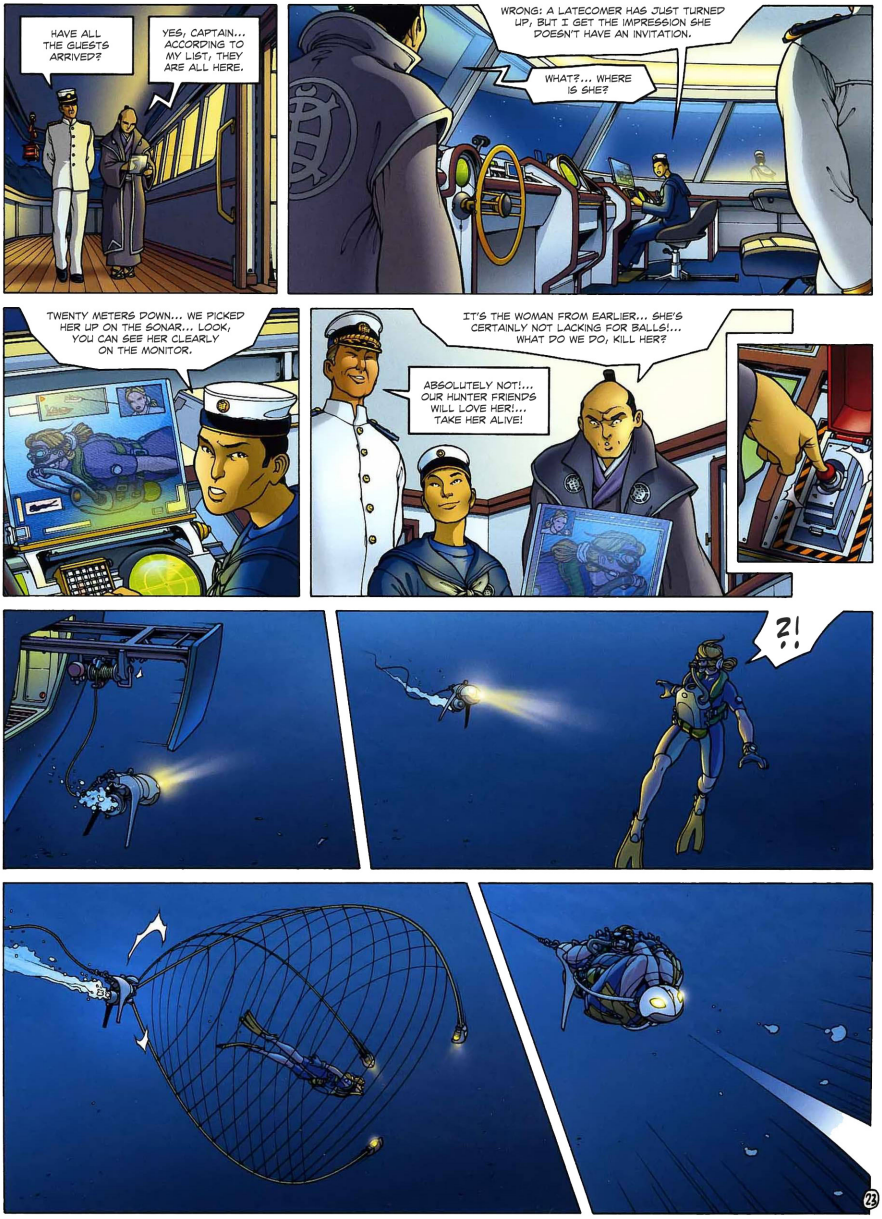
YOU'LL SEE, THE PLACE IS RIDDLED WITH MINING GALLERIES... A REAL MAZE... NO ONE HAS EVER COME OUT ALIVE.

WHERE'S OUR DIVE GEAR?
IN THE TRUNK IN THE BACK... WHY?... YOU DON'T INTEND TO GO BACK?!

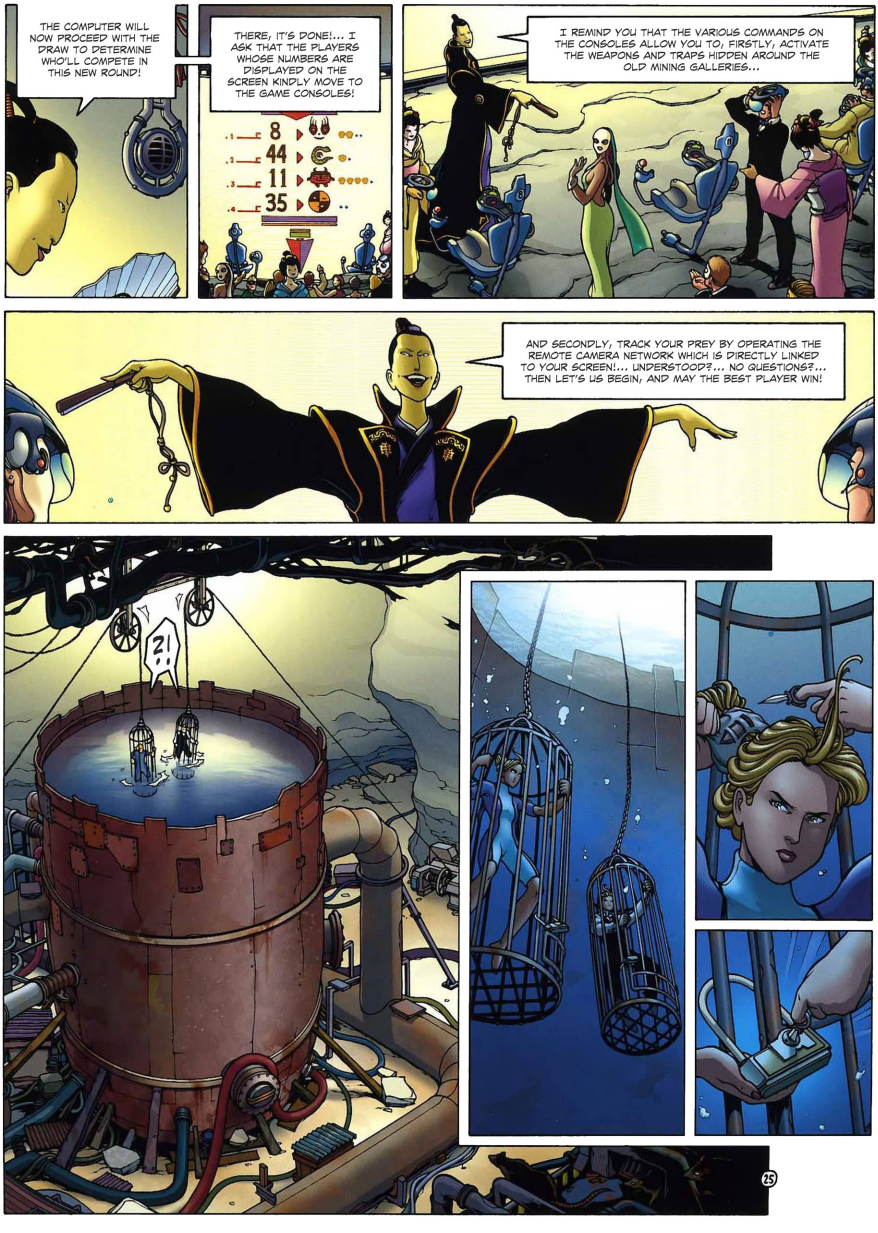
DO YOU HAVE A BETTER IDEA?
THIS IS MADNESS!... THOSE ASSHOLES ARE ARMED TO THE TEETH, YOU WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE!

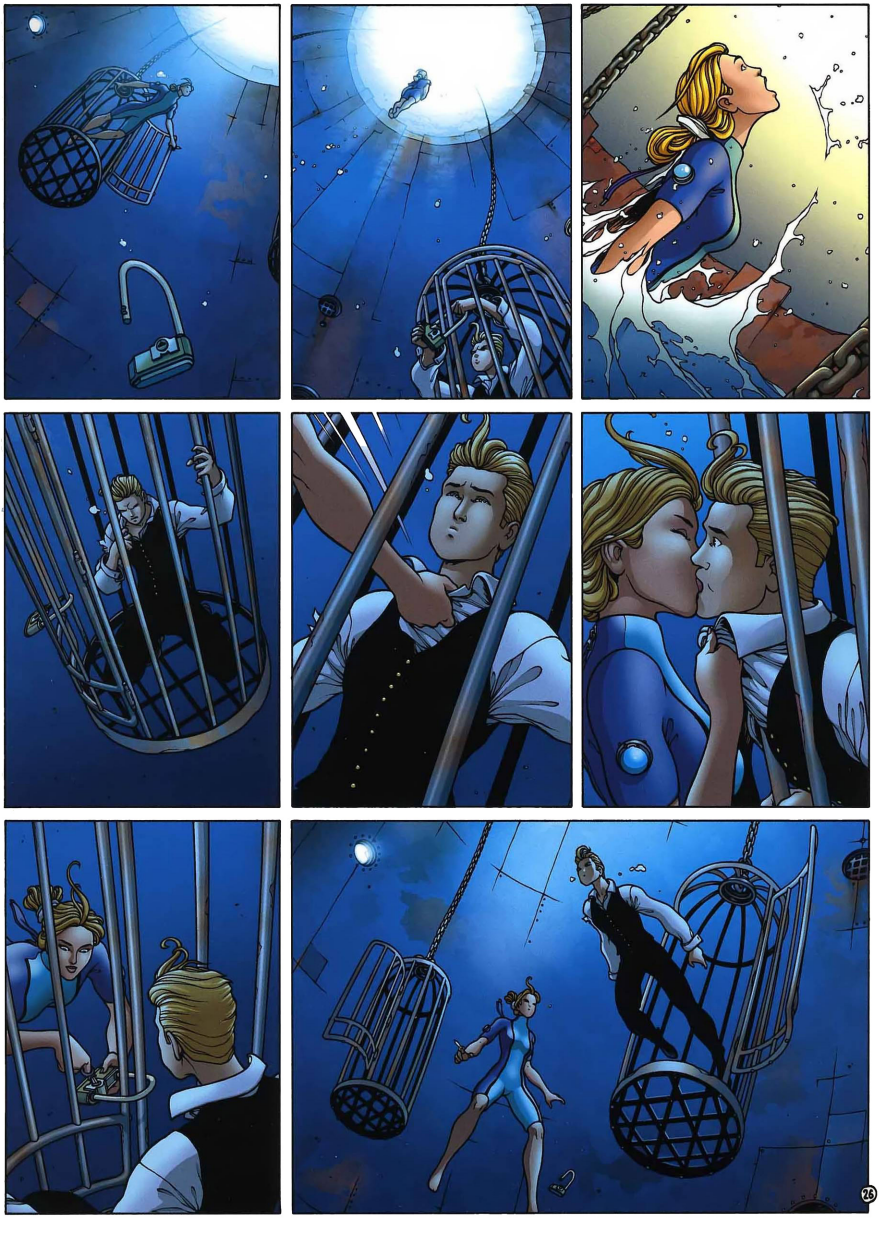
I HAVE NO CHOICE... I NEED THAT FIFTEEN GRAND TO RAISE MY SON.
AND HE NEEDS HIS MOTHER!... WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO HIM IF YOU GET KILLED, HUH?

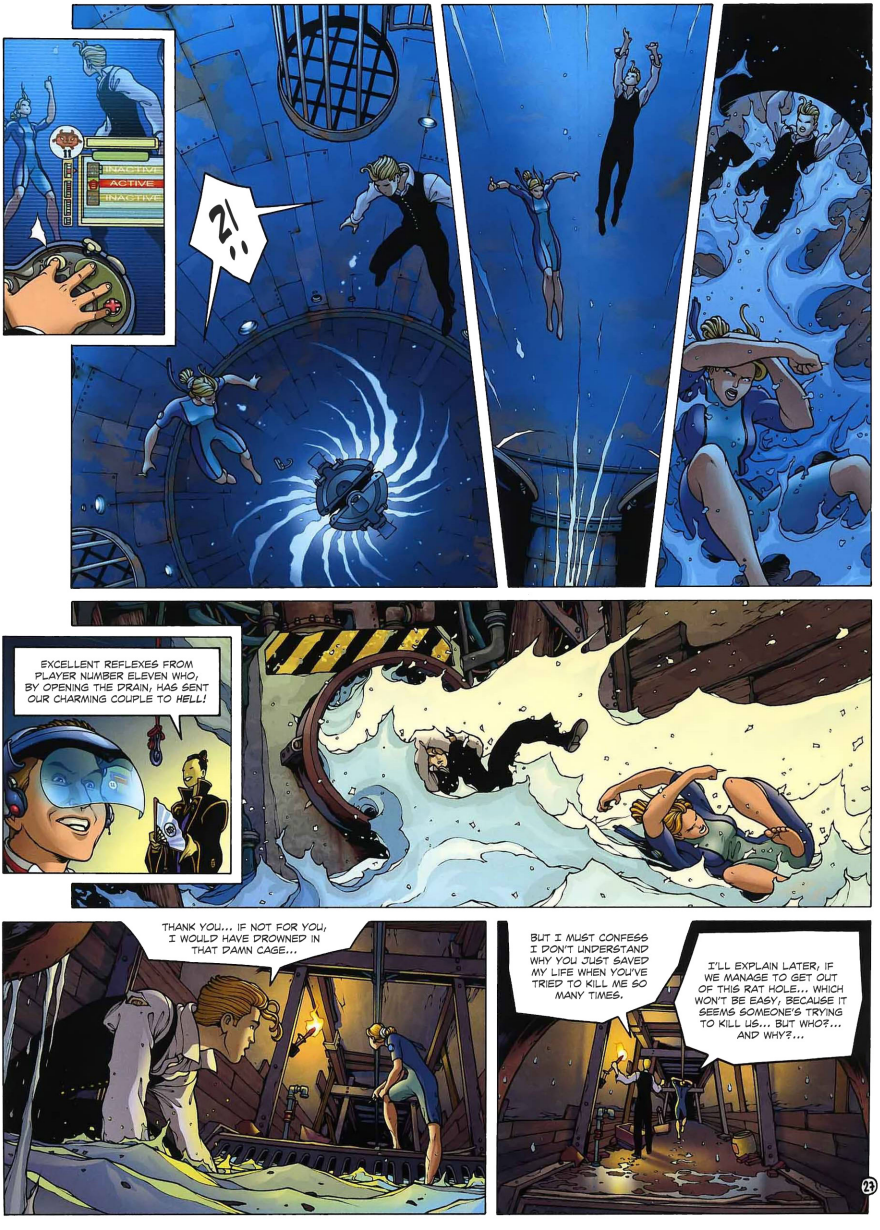



HAVE ALL THE GUESTS ARRIVED?
YES, CAPTAIN... ACCORDING TO MY LIST, THEY ARE ALL HERE.
WRONG: A LATECOMER HAS JUST TURNED UP, BUT I GET THE IMPRESSION SHE DOESN'T HAVE AN INVITATION.
WHAT?... WHERE IS SHE?
TWENTY METERS DOWN... WE PICKED HER UP ON THE SONAR... LOOK, YOU CAN SEE HER CLEARLY ON THE MONITOR.
IT'S THE WOMAN FROM EARLIER... SHE'S CERTAINLY NOT LACKING FOR BALLS!... WHAT DO WE DO, KILL HER?
ABSOLUTELY NOT!... OUR HUNTER FRIENDS WILL LOVE HER!... TAKE HER ALIVE!
?!

AAAHHH
AND IT'S PLAYER NUMBER FOUR WHO WINS THE ROUND!... GIVE HIM A HAND!
THOSE OF YOU WHO BET ON HIM CAN NOW COLLECT YOUR WINNINGS FROM OUR CHARMING HOSTESS!
THE CAPTAIN OF YOUR YACHT IS ON THE PHONE.
HELLO?... WHAT?!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!... I'VE JUST LEARNED THAT WE'VE RECEIVED AN UNEXPECTED CONSIGNMENT OF "GAME", SO WE CAN ORGANIZE ANOTHER HUNTING PARTY!
AND THIS TIME, THE PLAYERS WILL HUNT TWO PREY AT ONCE!


THE COMPUTER WILL NOW PROCEED WITH THE DRAW TO DETERMINE WHO'LL COMPETE IN THIS NEW ROUND!
THERE, IT'S DONE!... I ASK THAT THE PLAYERS WHOSE NUMBERS ARE DISPLAYED ON THE SCREEN KINDLY MOVE TO THE GAME CONSOLES!
.1 8
.2 44
.3 11
.4 35
I REMIND YOU THAT THE VARIOUS COMMANDS ON THE CONSOLES ALLOW YOU TO, FIRSTLY, ACTIVATE THE WEAPONS AND TRAPS HIDDEN AROUND THE OLD MINING GALLERIES...
AND SECONDLY, TRACK YOUR PREY BY OPERATING THE REMOTE CAMERA NETWORK WHICH IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO YOUR SCREEN!... UNDERSTOOD?... NO QUESTIONS?... THEN LET'S US BEGIN, AND MAY THE BEST PLAYER WIN!
2!!




11
INACTIVE
ACTIVE
INACTIVE
2!.
EXCELLENT REFLEXES FROM PLAYER NUMBER ELEVEN WHO, BY OPENING THE DRAIN, HAS SENT OUR CHARMING COUPLE TO HELL!
THANK YOU... IF NOT FOR YOU, I WOULD HAVE DROWNED IN THAT DAMN CAGE...
BUT I MUST CONFESS I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU JUST SAVED MY LIFE WHEN YOU'VE TRIED TO KILL ME SO MANY TIMES.
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER, IF WE MANAGE TO GET OUT OF THIS RAT HOLE... WHICH WON'T BE EASY, BECAUSE IT SEEMS SOMEONE'S TRYING TO KILL US... BUT WHO?... AND WHY?...

AAAAHHH
?!
SHIT, THIS PIT IS TOO WIDE TO JUMP ACROSS, EVEN WITH A RUN-UP... WE'LL NEVER GET PAST IT.
YES, WE WILL!... HELP ME RETURN THIS TO ITS TRACK!

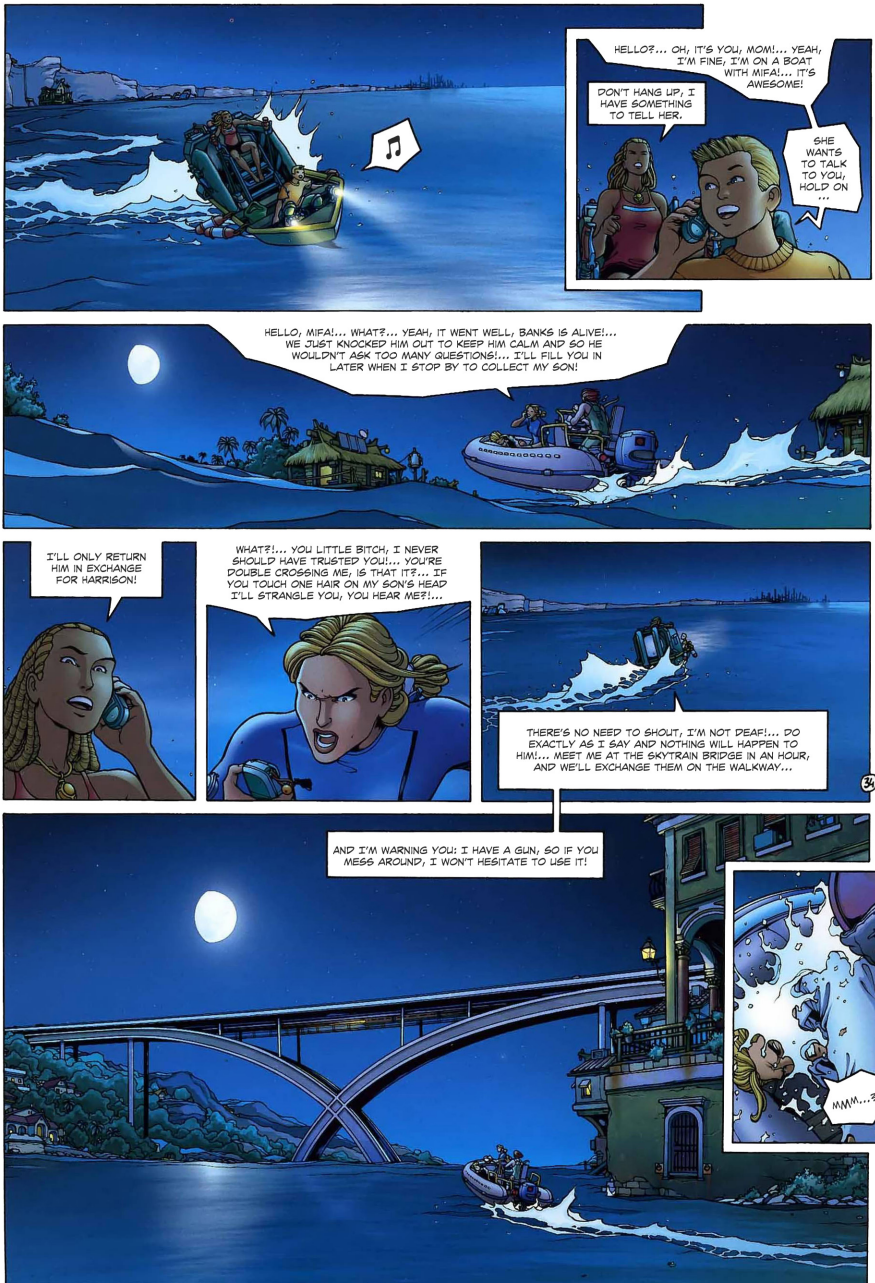
DESPITE THE TRAPS YOU SET FOR THEM, BOTH YOUR PREY MANAGED TO ESCAPE... IS IT BECAUSE THEY'RE ESPECIALLY TRICKY, OR IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE POOR HUNTERS?... IN ANY CASE, THE ENDING PROMISES TO BE EXCITING, FEROCIOUS...
...AND SPECTACULAR, BECAUSE YOU'LL NOW NEED TO USE YOUR DESTRUCTO-WEAPONS!
YOU OKAY? ...NOTHING BROKEN?
SHHH!... LISTEN!
KILLER DRONES!... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, QUICK!... THEIR STINGS ARE FATAL!

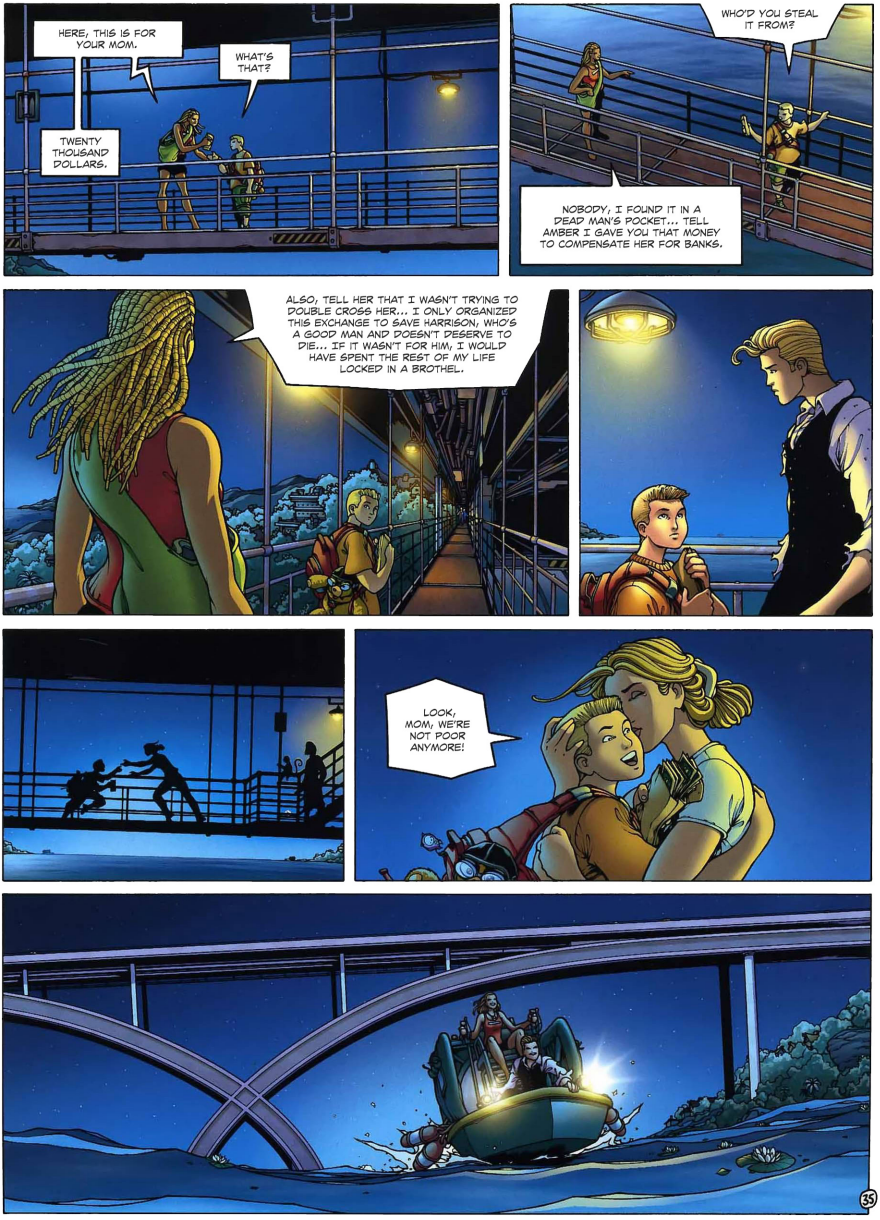
LOOK OUT!
?!
THIS WAY... QUICK!

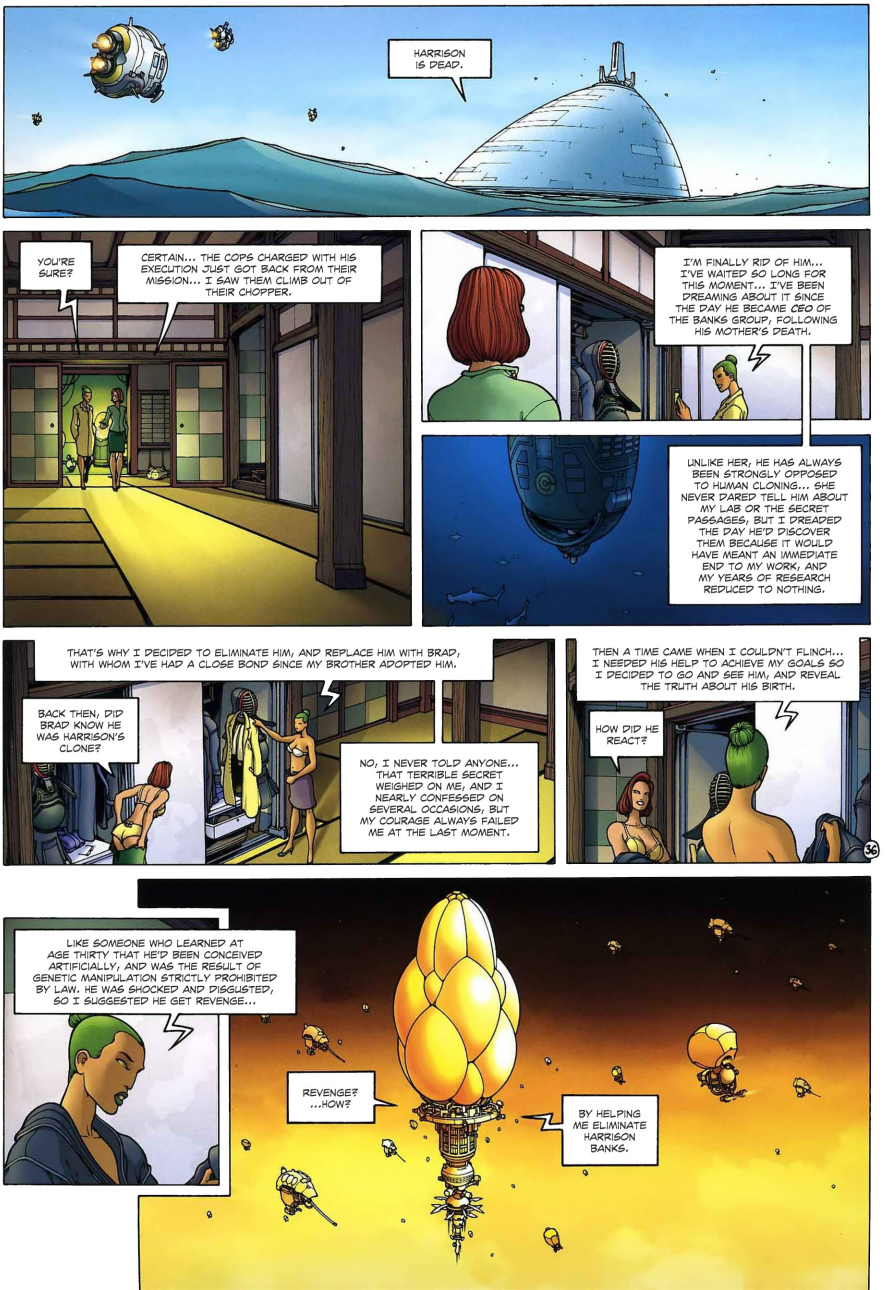
THIS AIR VENT OPENS TO THE OUTSIDE!... MAYBE WE COULD GET OUT THIS WAY?
DANGER
SHIT!... ANOTHER TRAP!... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE THESE BASTARDS!... THEY'LL AMUSE THEMSELVES WITH THE HUNT UNTIL THEY HAVE OUR HIDES!
?!
DANGER
DANGER

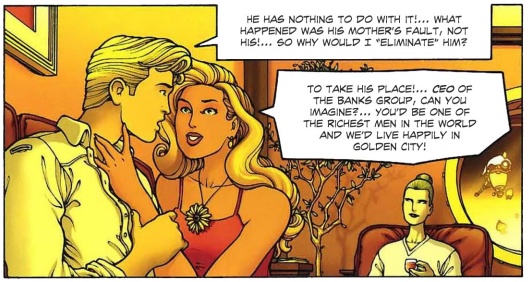
THE BLADES ARE JAMMED!... THIS IS OUR CHANGE TO SLIP THROUGH!
MOVE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SENDING A MESSAGE IN MORSE CODE!
ROGER THAT, HONEY, I'M COMING!

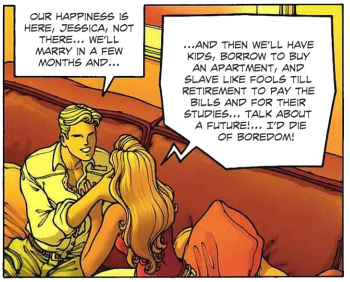
NO GUARD BOATS IN SIGHT, THEY MUST BE PATROLLING THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ISLAND... HOPEFULLY THEY WON'T DECIDE TO COME BACK THIS WAY!
WE'RE TRAPPED BEHIND THE GRATE!... HELP US OUT OF HERE!
HERE, TAKE THIS TO AMBER.
WATCH OUT, THE BLADE IS MOVING TOWARD US!... WE'LL BE HACKED TO BITS!
GIVE ME THE ROPE, QUICK!... HURRY UP!


HELLO?... OH, IT'S YOU, MOM!... YEAH, I'M FINE, I'M ON A BOAT WITH MIFA!... IT'S AWESOME!
DON'T HANG UP, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL HER.
SHE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU, HOLD ON ...
HELLO, MIFA!... WHAT?... YEAH, IT WENT WELL, BANKS IS ALIVE!... WE JUST KNOCKED HIM OUT TO KEEP HIM CALM AND SO HE WOULDN'T ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS!.. I'LL FILL YOU IN LATER WHEN I STOP BY TO COLLECT MY SON!
I'LL ONLY RETURN HIM IN EXCHANGE FOR HARRISON!
WHAT?!... YOU LITTLE BITCH, I NEVER SHOULD HAVE TRUSTED YOU!... YOU'RE DOUBLE CROSSING ME, IS THAT IT?... IF YOU TOUCH ONE HAIR ON MY SON'S HEAD I'LL STRANGLE YOU, YOU HEAR ME?!...
THERE'S NO NEED TO SHOUT, I'M NOT DEAF!... DO EXACTLY AS I SAY AND NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO HIM!... MEET ME AT THE SKYTRAIN BRIDGE IN AN HOUR, AND WE'LL EXCHANGE THEM ON THE WALKWAY...
34
AND I'M WARNING YOU: I HAVE A GUN, SO IF YOU MESS AROUND, I WON'T HESITATE TO USE IT!
MMM...?

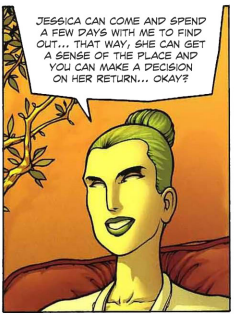

HERE, THIS IS FOR YOUR MOM.
WHAT'S THAT?
TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.
WHO'D YOU STEAL IT FROM?
NOBODY, I FOUND IT IN A DEAD MAN'S POCKET... TELL AMBER I GAVE YOU THAT MONEY TO COMPENSATE HER FOR BANKS.
ALSO, TELL HER THAT I WASN'T TRYING TO DOUBLE CROSS HER... I ONLY ORGANIZED THIS EXCHANGE TO SAVE HARRISON, WHO'S A GOOD MAN AND DOESN'T DESERVE TO DIE... IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM, I WOULD HAVE SPENT THE REST OF MY LIFE LOCKED IN A BROTHEL.
LOOK, MOM, WE'RE NOT POOR ANYMORE!


HARRISON IS DEAD.
YOU'RE SURE?
CERTAIN... THE COPS CHARGED WITH HIS EXECUTION JUST GOT BACK FROM THEIR MISSION... I SAW THEM CLIMB OUT OF THEIR CHOPPER.
I'M FINALLY RID OF HIM... I'VE WAITED SO LONG FOR THIS MOMENT... I'VE BEEN DREAMING ABOUT IT SINCE THE DAY HE BECAME CEO OF THE BANKS GROUP, FOLLOWING HIS MOTHER'S DEATH.
UNLIKE HER, HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN STRONGLY OPPOSED TO HUMAN CLONING... SHE NEVER DARED TELL HIM ABOUT MY LAB OR THE SECRET PASSAGES, BUT I DREADED THE DAY HE'D DISCOVER THEM BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE MEANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO MY WORK, AND MY YEARS OF RESEARCH REDUCED TO NOTHING.
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO ELIMINATE HIM, AND REPLACE HIM WITH BRAD, WITH WHOM I'VE HAD A CLOSE BOND SINCE MY BROTHER ADOPTED HIM.
BACK THEN, DID BRAD KNOW HE WAS HARRISON'S CLONE?
NO, I NEVER TOLD ANYONE... THAT TERRIBLE SECRET WEIGHED ON ME, AND I NEARLY CONFESSED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, BUT MY COURAGE ALWAYS FAILED ME AT THE LAST MOMENT.
THEN A TIME CAME WHEN I COULDN'T FLINCH... I NEEDED HIS HELP TO ACHIEVE MY GOALS SO I DECIDED TO GO AND SEE HIM, AND REVEAL THE TRUTH ABOUT HIS BIRTH.
HOW DID HE REACT?
LIKE SOMEONE WHO LEARNED AT AGE THIRTY THAT HE'D BEEN CONCEIVED ARTIFICIALLY, AND WAS THE RESULT OF GENETIC MANIPULATION STRICTLY PROHIBITED BY LAW. HE WAS SHOCKED AND DISGUSTED, SO I SUGGESTED HE GET REVENGE...
REVENGE? ...HOW?
BY HELPING ME ELIMINATE HARRISON BANKS.


HE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!... WHAT HAPPENED WAS HIS MOTHER'S FAULT, NOT HIS!... SO WHY WOULD I "ELIMINATE" HIM?
TO TAKE HIS PLACE!... CEO OF THE BANKS GROUP, CAN YOU IMAGINE?... YOU'D BE ONE OF THE RICHEST MEN IN THE WORLD AND WE'D LIVE HAPPILY IN GOLDEN CITY!

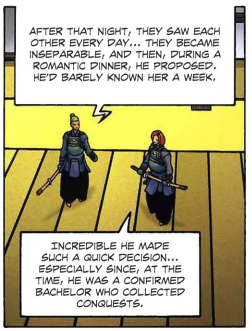

OUR HAPPINESS IS HERE, JESSICA, NOT THERE... WE'LL MARRY IN A FEW MONTHS AND...
...AND THEN WE'LL HAVE KIDS, BORROW TO BUY AN APARTMENT, AND SLAVE LIKE FOOLS TILL RETIREMENT TO PAY THE BILLS AND FOR THEIR STUDIES... TALK ABOUT A FUTURE!... I'D DIE OF BOREDOM!

A SMALL, COMFORTABLE, QUIET LITTLE LIFE, JUST ISN'T FOR ME... WE HAVE A CHANCE TO GET OUT OF THIS, BRAD, DON'T PASS IT UP.
ALL OUR FRIENDS ARE HERE, OUR PARENTS TOO... WE DON'T KNOW ANYONE IN GOLDEN CITY... HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU'LL LIKE IT?

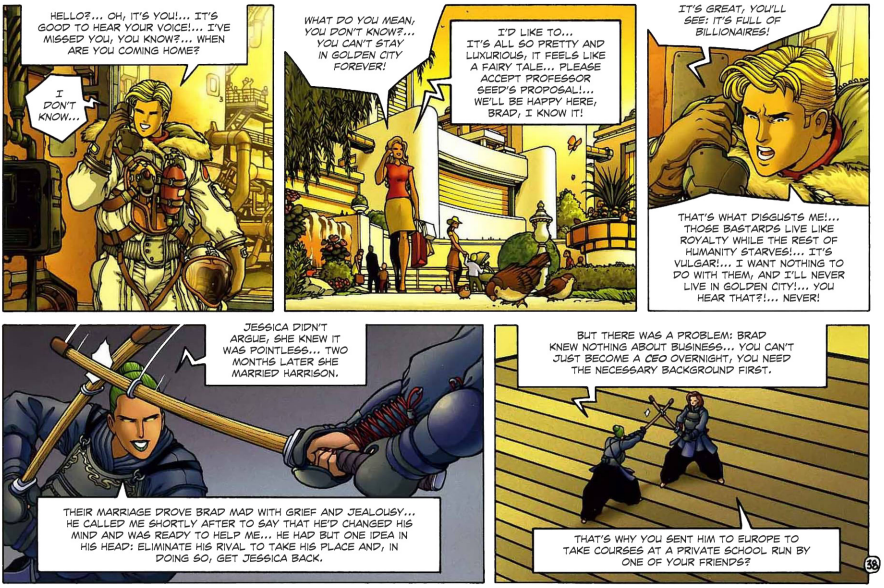

JESSICA CAN COME AND SPEND A FEW DAYS WITH ME TO FIND OUT... THAT WAY, SHE CAN GET A SENSE OF THE PLACE AND YOU CAN MAKE A DECISION ON HER RETURN... OKAY?

BRAD WASN'T VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT MY PROPOSAL, BUT HE EVENTUALLY RELENTED... TWO DAYS LATER I WAS INVITED TO A BANKS RECEPTION AND JESSICA INSISTED UPON ACCOMPANYING ME... SHE WAS DYING TO MEET HARRISON, AND WHEN HE LAID EYES ON HER, IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

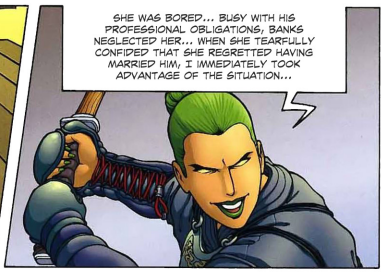
NORMAL THAT CLONES WOULD HAVE THE SAME TASTE... LIKE TWINS, WHO'RE OFTEN ATTRACTED TO THE SAME GIRL.
MAYBE... BUT I THINK HE WAS ESPECIALLY CHARMED BY JESSICA'S SPONTANEITY AND SIMPLICITY... IT WAS A PLEASANT CHANGE FROM THE SOPHISTICATION AND PRETENTIOUSNESS OF THE RICH, ARROGANT HEIRESSES HE USUALLY RUBBED SHOULDERS WITH.

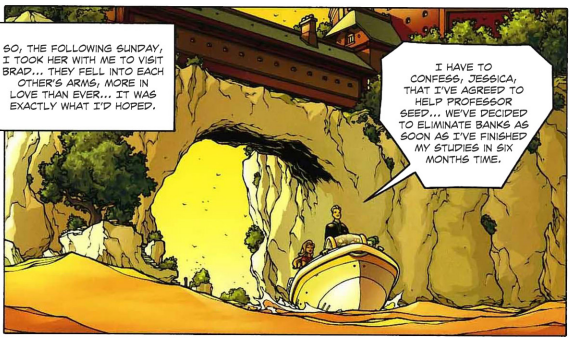

AFTER THAT NIGHT, THEY SAW EACH OTHER EVERY DAY... THEY BECAME INSEPARABLE, AND THEN, DURING A ROMANTIC DINNER, HE PROPOSED. HE'D BARELY KNOWN HER A WEEK.
INCREDIBLE HE MADE SUCH A QUICK DECISION... ESPECIALLY SINCE, AT THE TIME, HE WAS A CONFIRMED BACHELOR WHO COLLECTED CONQUESTS.

WHAT DID JESSICA DO?... SAY "YES" RIGHT AWAY?
NO, SHE CALLED BRAD FIRST... WITHOUT TELLING HIM THAT SHE'D MET HARRISON, OF COURSE.

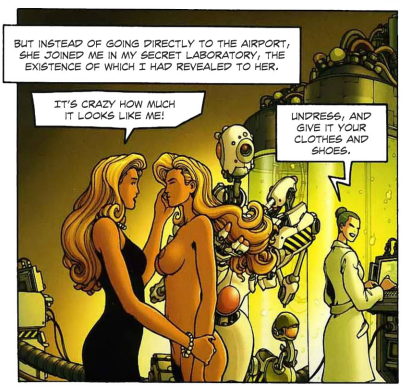

HELLO?... OH, IT'S YOU!... IT'S GOOD TO HEAR YOUR VOICE!... I'VE MISSED YOU, YOU KNOW?... WHEN ARE YOU COMING HOME?
I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU DON'T KNOW?... YOU CAN'T STAY IN GOLDEN CITY FOREVER!
I'D LIKE TO... IT'S ALL SO PRETTY AND LUXURIOUS, IT FEELS LIKE A FAIRY TALE... PLEASE ACCEPT PROFESSOR SEED'S PROPOSAL!... WE'LL BE HAPPY HERE, BRAD, I KNOW IT!
IT'S GREAT, YOU'LL SEE: IT'S FULL OF BILLIONAIRES!
THAT'S WHAT DISGUSTS ME!... THOSE BASTARDS LIVE LIKE ROYALTY WHILE THE REST OF HUMANITY STARVES!... IT'S VULGAR!... I WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM, AND I'LL NEVER LIVE IN GOLDEN CITY!... YOU HEAR THAT?!... NEVER!
JESSICA DIDN'T ARGUE; SHE KNEW IT WAS POINTLESS... TWO MONTHS LATER SHE MARRIED HARRISON.
THEIR MARRIAGE DROVE BRAD MAD WITH GRIEF AND JEALOUSY... HE CALLED ME SHORTLY AFTER TO SAY THAT HE'D CHANGED HIS MIND AND WAS READY TO HELP ME... HE HAD BUT ONE IDEA IN HIS HEAD: ELIMINATE HIS RIVAL TO TAKE HIS PLACE AND, IN DOING SO, GET JESSICA BACK.
BUT THERE WAS A PROBLEM: BRAD KNEW NOTHING ABOUT BUSINESS... YOU CAN'T JUST BECOME A CEO OVERNIGHT, YOU NEED THE NECESSARY BACKGROUND FIRST.
THAT'S WHY YOU SENT HIM TO EUROPE TO TAKE COURSES AT A PRIVATE SCHOOL RUN BY ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS?
39
YES... THERE HE LEARNED HIS FUTURE TRADE... FOR TWO YEARS HE DEVOTED HIMSELF SOLELY TO HIS STUDIES, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK... I WENT TO SEE HIM REGULARLY.
HELLO, BRAD, I BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU.
WHAT IS IT?
RECORDINGS OF HARRISON'S TELEVISED INTERVIEWS... WATCH THEM REPEATEDLY TO UNDERSTAND HIS PERSONALITY AND COPY HIS WAY OF SPEAKING, MANNERISMS, AND BEARING.
SO YOU'LL BE PERFECTLY CREDIBLE; YOU'LL ALSO NEED TO KNOW ALL ABOUT THE SHAREHOLDERS, CUSTOMERS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE BANKS GROUP... MY FRIEND KATE WILL FILL YOU IN: BEING HARRISON'S PERSONAL SECRETARY, SHE'S AN EXPERT ON THE SUBJECT.

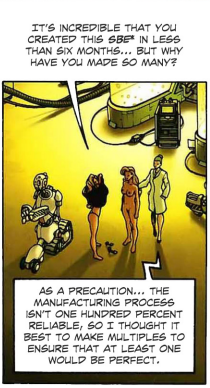
AS FOR ME, I TOLD HIM EVERYTHING I KNEW ABOUT HARRISON... NOTABLY EVERYTHING HIS MOTHER TOLD ME, AS HER CONFIDANTE, ABOUT HIS CHILDHOOD.
AND JESSICA, WHAT WAS SHE DOING?

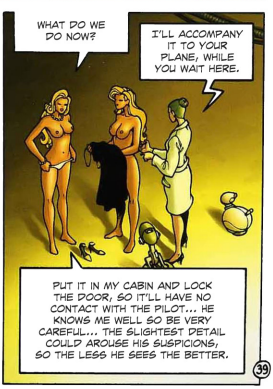

SHE WAS BORED... BUSY WITH HIS PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS, BANKS NEGLECTED HER... WHEN SHE TEARFULLY CONFIDED THAT SHE REGRETTED HAVING MARRIED HIM, I IMMEDIATELY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION...


SO, THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, I TOOK HER WITH ME TO VISIT BRAD... THEY FELL INTO EACH OTHER'S ARMS, MORE IN LOVE THAN EVER... IT WAS EXACTLY WHAT I'D HOPED.
I HAVE TO CONFESS, JESSICA, THAT I'VE AGREED TO HELP PROFESSOR SEED... WE'VE DECIDED TO ELIMINATE BANKS AS SOON AS I'VE FINISHED MY STUDIES IN SIX MONTHS TIME.

SHE WAS MORE EASILY PERSUADED THAN I THOUGHT; AND SIX MONTHS LATER EVERYTHING WAS READY... THE MORNING OF D-DAY, SHE CALLED THE PILOT OF HIS PRIVATE JET.
I WANT TO GO AND SEE A FRIEND OF MINE WHO LIVES TWO HOUR'S FLIGHT FROM HERE... PREPARE FOR TAKE-OFF; I'M COMING.


BUT INSTEAD OF GOING DIRECTLY TO THE AIRPORT, SHE JOINED ME IN MY SECRET LABORATORY, THE EXISTENCE OF WHICH I HAD REVEALED TO HER.
IT'S CRAZY HOW MUCH IT LOOKS LIKE ME!
UNDRESS, AND GIVE IT YOUR CLOTHES AND SHOES.


IT'S INCREDIBLE THAT YOU CREATED THIS SBE* IN LESS THAN SIX MONTHS... BUT WHY HAVE YOU MADE SO MANY?
AS A PRECAUTION... THE MANUFACTURING PROCESS ISN'T ONE HUNDRED PERCENT RELIABLE; SO I THOUGHT IT BEST TO MAKE MULTIPLES TO ENSURE THAT AT LEAST ONE WOULD BE PERFECT.


WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
I'LL ACCOMPANY IT TO YOUR PLANE, WHILE YOU WAIT HERE.
PUT IT IN MY CABIN AND LOCK THE DOOR; SO IT'LL HAVE NO CONTACT WITH THE PILOT... HE KNOWS ME WELL SO BE VERY CAREFUL... THE SLIGHTEST DETAIL COULD AROUSE HIS SUSPICIONS, SO THE LESS HE SEES THE BETTER.

* SYNTHETIC BIOLOGICAL ENTITY.

THIRTY MINUTES LATER THE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN BY BRASOV WHO, ACCORDING TO MY ORIGINAL PLAN, WAS SUPPOSED TO DIVE ON THE WRECK AND RECOVER THE SBE... IT WOULD THEN HAVE BEEN USED TO LURE BANKS, WHO'D THINK IT WAS REALLY HIS WIFE, TO THE MAINLAND...

BUT DUE TO A SPERM WHALE, HE COULDN'T RETRIEVE THE SBE BEFORE IT WAS SALVAGED BY THE YOUNG WRECKERS... AT THAT MOMENT I THOUGHT ALL WAS LOST; BUT NO, BANKS EVENTUALLY LEFT GOLDEN CITY AS PLANNED...

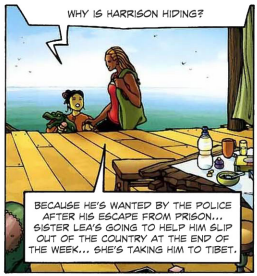
...AND BRAD, WHO'D BEEN HIDING IN MY LABORATORY SINCE THE DAY BEFORE, USED THE SECRET PASSAGE TO RISE UP AND TAKE HIS PLACE.
WELCOME, MISTER PRESIDENT.

THE REST YOU KNOW... NOT EVERYTHING WENT AS I'D IMAGINED, BUT I STILL ACHIEVED MY GOAL: ELIMINATING HARRISON... NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO.
WHAT?

SORRY, MY LOVE, BUT I HAD NO CHOICE... YOU KNEW TOO MUCH TO RISK LETTING YOU LIVE.
IT'S A SHAME... YOU HAD A GREAT ASS.

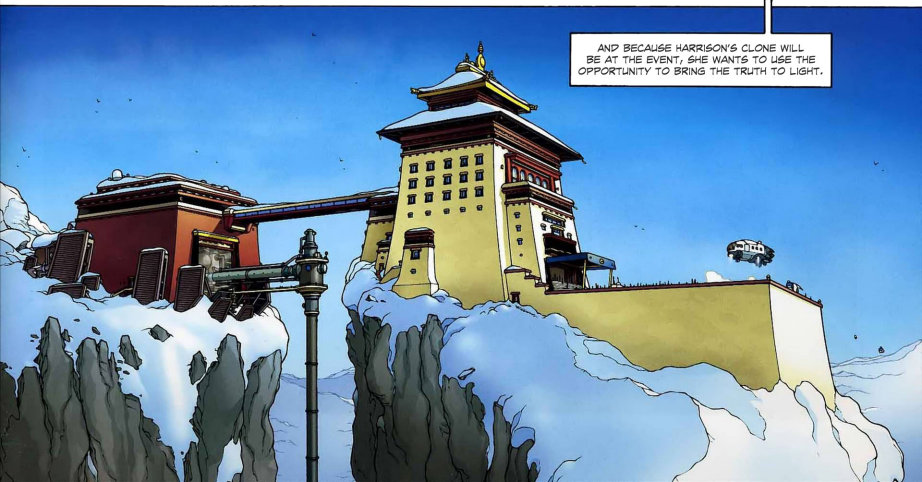
FINALLY!... I WAS STARTING TO WORRY!
WE THOUGHT AMBER WASTED YOU!... HOW DID IT GO WITH HER?
FINE... IN ANY CASE, I GAVE HER ALL THE MONEY I FOUND ON THE JACKAL SO SHE LOST NOTHING IN THE EXCHANGE.

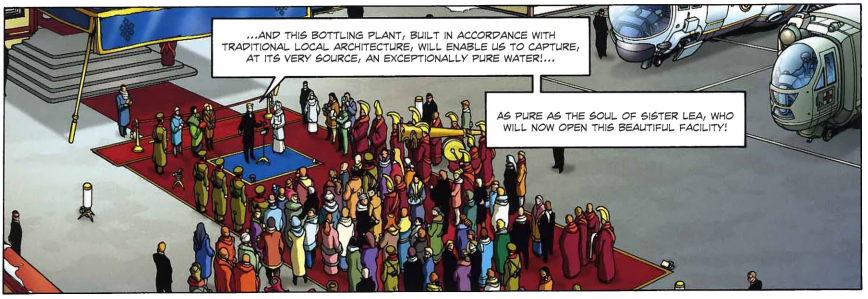
WHERE'S HARRISON?
I TOOK HIM TO SISTER LEA, WHO HAS AGREED TO HIDE HIM... I ALSO FETCHED MY BOAT, WHICH WAS STILL MOORED AT THE ORPHANAGE DOCK.

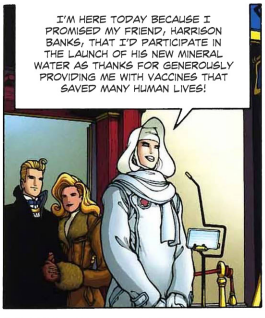

WHY IS HARRISON HIDING?
BECAUSE HE'S WANTED BY THE POLICE AFTER HIS ESCAPE FROM PRISON... SISTER LEA'S GOING TO HELP HIM SLIP OUT OF THE COUNTRY AT THE END OF THE WEEK... SHE'S TAKING HIM TO TIBET.

TIBET?!... WHAT'S SHE GOING TO DO THERE?

SHE'S OPENING A BOTTLING PLANT FOR THE BANKS GROUP.

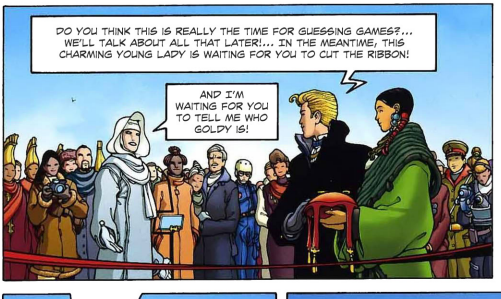

AND BECAUSE HARRISON'S CLONE WILL BE AT THE EVENT, SHE WANTS TO USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE TRUTH TO LIGHT.


...AND THIS BOTTLING PLANT, BUILT IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRADITIONAL LOCAL ARCHITECTURE, WILL ENABLE US TO CAPTURE, AT ITS VERY SOURCE, AN EXCEPTIONALLY PURE WATER!...
AS PURE AS THE SOUL OF SISTER LEA, WHO WILL NOW OPEN THIS BEAUTIFUL FACILITY!


I'M HERE TODAY BECAUSE I PROMISED MY FRIEND, HARRISON BANKS, THAT I'D PARTICIPATE IN THE LAUNCH OF HIS NEW MINERAL WATER AS THANKS FOR GENEROUSLY PROVIDING ME WITH VACCINES THAT SAVED MANY HUMAN LIVES!

BUT BEFORE I CUT THE INAUGURAL RIBBON, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING, MISTER PRESIDENT...
I'M LISTENING.

WHO IS GOLDY?


DO YOU THINK THIS IS REALLY THE TIME FOR GUESSING GAMES?... WE'LL TALK ABOUT ALL THAT LATER!... IN THE MEANTIME, THIS CHARMING YOUNG LADY IS WAITING FOR YOU TO CUT THE RIBBON!
AND I'M WAITING FOR YOU TO TELL ME WHO GOLDY IS!

I REFUSE TO RESPOND TO THAT STUPID QUESTION!
RATHER ADMIT THAT YOU DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER!... IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE, BECAUSE ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN THE WORLD DO: ME AND...

HIM!

H... HARRISON!

BY CALLING ME BY MY NAME, YOU BETRAY YOURSELF!... YOU THOUGHT I WAS DEAD, HUH?... YOU, BRAD, AND PROFESSOR SEED THOUGHT YOU'D FINALLY GOT RID OF ME!
IS THAT THE TRUTH, SISTER LEA?
IS HE REALLY HARRISON BANKS?
YES.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE HE'S GOLDY... I NICKNAMED HIM THAT WHEN WE WERE KIDS... IT WAS A SECRET BETWEEN US THAT HE SWORE NEVER TO REVEAL TO ANYONE.
IN THAT CASE, THIS MAN IS AN IMPOSTER!... ARREST HIM!
BACK OFF!
I'M TAKING SISTER LEA ON A LITTLE TRIP!... LET US LEAVE AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE, BUT ONE FALSE MOVE AND I'LL SHOOT HER!... GOT THAT?
ARE YOU INSANE?... DON'T DO THIS!
YOU'D RATHER GO TO JAIL?... I DON'T!... SO FOLLOW ME!

NO!... DON'T KILL HIM!
BAHHH!

A FEW DAYS AFTER THE TERRIBLE DRAMA THAT UNFOLDED, AND DESPITE HIS HEARTBREAK, HARRISON BANKS PAID TRIBUTE TO THE LITTLE ORPHANS WHO HELPED TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE...
THIS MORNING, DURING A MOVING CEREMONY PRESIDED OVER BY THE MAYOR OF OUR CITY, HE HANDED THEM THE KEYS TO AN APARTMENT NEIGHBORING HIS OWN AS THANKS...
IT'S IN THIS APARTMENT, OF WHICH THEY ARE NOW THE OWNERS, THAT THEY'LL LIVE... A PLEASANT CHANGE FROM THE DILAPIDATED OLD HUT THEY HAD TO MAKE DO WITH BEFORE.
NO DOUBT, AT THIS LATE HOUR, THEY'RE ALREADY ASLEEP AND DREAMING SWEETLY.
IN CLOSING, A WORD ABOUT PROFESSOR SEED: SHE IS STILL AT LARGE AND AN INTERNATIONAL WARRANT OF ARREST WAS ISSUED AGAINST HER TODAY.
14
I CAN'T SLEEP...
IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE SHE WAS A BABY.
SHE NEEDS THE SOUND OF THE SEA TO ROCK HER TO SLEEP.
BUT HERE, IT'S SO INSULATED WE CAN'T HEAR A THING.
WITHOUT SOUND IT'S SCARY... LIKE WE'RE DEAD!
WELL, I CAN'T SLEEP EITHER...
THE END. (FOR NOW)
PECQUEUR
MALFIN
SCHELLE & ROCH

Genre

Adventure

•

THE CHARACTERS

BANKS: The director of one of the most powerful pharmaceutical companies in the world, and husband to Jessica. Grew up in Golden City, an exclusive floating metropolis reserved only for the rich.

MIFA, APPLE, SOLO and KUMIKO: Orphans who were thrown out onto the streets. They've become a family, and live as Wreckers, plundering wrecks in the ocean depths.

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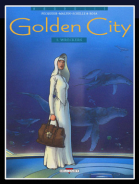
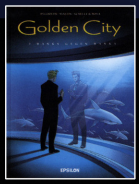
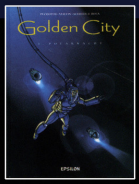
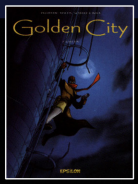
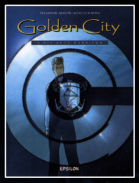
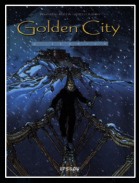
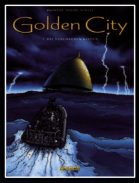
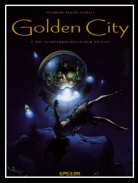
THE STORY

An escaped convict on the run from the police, Harrison slipped back into Golden City to try to prove his innocence. In vain. Convinced that he's a dangerous criminal, the leaders of the city have sentenced him to death. At dawn, he'll be taken far from the city to be discreetly executed...